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R DE DINDIGUL
CIGARS.

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

749.—ONE PENNY. [Registered at the
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SPECIAL
SUNDAY EDITION.

TEST TELEGRAMS.

THE HORSEY MYSTERY.

THE MISSING MONEY.

LATEST DETAILS.

STILL NO CLUE.

LOGLIA AND THE POWERS.
Feb. 15.—In the approaching Conference to be held by the Pope, his Holiness will deliver an allocution, which will contain a statement regarding the conversion of Prince Ferdinand for his action in the "PALL MALL GAZETTE."

Feb. 15.—"The Eclair" says that all the Powers, Great Britain, and France alone seem to intend to make representations regarding the recognition of Ferdinand. The former, it is said, has given his sanction to the union of Eastern Rumelia to Bulgaria. But in any case the position of the Prince will result in the final solution of the Macedonian question. The position in the East consequently presents an aspect favourable to the maintenance of peace.—REUTER.

PETERSBURG, Feb. 15.—In spite of the enthusiasm prevailing in Russia over conciliation with Bulgaria, some apprehension is felt that the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with Bulgaria may entangle Russia in international complications which she would otherwise have avoided, more particularly with regard to Macedonia. The "Novoye Vremya" says that the process of securing the recognition of Ferdinand appears to be advancing rapidly. All that is still required is the assent of Great Britain. The rest will depend upon the behaviour of the ruler of Bulgaria and his advisers. The journal goes on to say that the firm conviction that the Russian government will not take a single step which could induce the belief that it is any anterior aim in Bulgaria beyond the influence aimed by great sacrifices.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 15.—Up to noon to-day Austria-Hungary was the only power that had applied to the Porte's communication concerning the recognition of Prince Ferdinand. Baron Calice, in presenting the pro-Hungarian reply yesterday, pointed out that his government had never refused to consent to the prince's election. Italy will reply in the same sense. The Porte had intended to defer raising the question of Prince Ferdinand's recognition until the Czar's coronation, but the Sultan had put his mind at rest the last moment, owing to an intimation from the Ottoman Government that the present was opportune for settling the matter.—REUTER.

CRISIS IN COREA.
OAHAMA, Feb. 15.—Detachments of French, American, and French marines have been sent to Seoul. The King still remains in the Russian Legation. A new Cabinet has been formed, and a decree ordering the return of some of the former Ministers has been issued. A conference of the foreign ministers has been opened at the Russian Legation.—REUTER.

OWNERSHIP OF TRINIDAD.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Mr. Curzon's statement in the House of Commons in reference to the Anglo-Brazilian dispute, the ownership of the isle of Trinidad established here at length to-day. What is said as an all-sufficient reply to his statement that the island was a sort of no man's land, and had not been inhabited this century, is contained in the remark that its ownership was fully recognised when J. Pender, on behalf of the Eastern Telegraph Company, sought permission from Brazil to establish a cable station on the Central New.

LEGED ROYALIST CONSPIRACY.
PARIS, Feb. 15.—The "Evenement" declares, in spite of all denials, that a conspiracy against the Republican form of government in France was arranged at the expense of the Central New. The inquest will be opened to-morrow at the Hornsey Coronet's Court.

MADE IN GERMANY.
HONG-KONG, Feb. 15.—A squadron of 6 gun-boats has assembled at Amoy, for the purpose, as is now known, of establishing a German trading and naval station in opposition to Hong Kong.—DALZIEL.

THE FRENCH MINISTRY.
PARIS, Feb. 15.—At the Cabinet Council at the Elysee to-day Ministers decided to accept the interpellation of Senator Monie on the Southern Railways affair.—REUTER.

THE SITUATION IN CUBA.
MADRID, Feb. 15.—Official telegrams from Havana state that Macao, with part of his force, has succeeded in re-entering the provincial columns of Spanish troops were sent along the boundary with the object of intercepting him. Maxime Gomez is reported to be moving towards the centre of the island, where a strong force of the insurgents, estimated at 7,000 men, has been concentrated by the rebel leaders, who have taken advantage of the suspension of hostilities arising out of the change of Spanish commanders.—DALZIEL.

REUBER'S AGENCY has issued the following communication from the Spanish Embassy: "Gen. Cornell has defeated Macao at Havana, capturing his position and 24 insurgents. Col. Lopez Amor has defeated the band which guarded the Republican Committee, inflicting upon it heavy losses."

CHTING IN BRITISH EAST AFRICA.
TOWN BURNED BY REBELS.
ZANZIBAR, Feb. 15.—The rebel chief, Ciziz, the head of 200 men, attacked Malindi on the coast of the British East African territory on Wednesday morning. He succeeded in setting fire to a number of houses. One was killed and a few of the rebels were killed. The time H.M.S. Thrush reached the place, the town was in flames.—REUTER.

The death is announced of Mr. John Henry, who expired at his residence at Canon Hill, aged 73, on the 13th inst. He was one of the last lineal descendants of Bishop

locked up in it, besides a comfortable deposit at the bank. In conclusion, Mrs. Bland said that she could not conceive any motive for the crime, and added, "Uncle was a man whom no one could dislike, and we can't help thinking that whoever was guilty of the foul deed must have known pretty accurately his manner of living. For many years he had been in the habit of retiring at 8 o'clock at night and getting up about 4 in the morning to light his fire and 'potter' about the house. I suppose he did this the morning he was murdered, and that the burglars caught him unaware, hence he was unable to sound an alarm. Had he been disturbed at that hour while in his bed-room he would have blown a policeman's whistle or aroused the neighbourhood in some way. The window through which the burglars are said to have entered, and which opens into the kitchen, had strong shutters which could be secured by a heavy bar, but uncle said, on one occasion, that he always left that window open."

THE VICTIM'S HABITS.

Mr. Smith had for years been in the habit of carrying a long leather purse (which he made himself) attached to a steel chain. Invariably the purse contained from £50 to £60, and this purse, detached from the chain, was found in the house empty. That the perpetrators of the crime took pains not to leave behind them anything which could in any way incriminate them is further evidenced from the fact that a Post Office Savings Bank book showing a credit in favour of the deceased of £150, was also left behind. As far as can be learned, the thieves satisfied themselves with the contents of the safe, which is believed to have amounted to at least £2700. On the occasion of his wife's death, some 20 years ago, Mr. Smith purchased the plot where his parents were buried in Highgate Cemetery and had an elaborate tombstone placed around it. The monument consists of a slab behind and in front, and on the former appears an inscription setting forth the dates of the death of his parents, and on the front slab is the following for his wife and himself, the date of his death being left blank:—

"Henry Smith, only son of Samuel Charles and Sarah Lyon Smith, who died—. Susan Smith, of Muswell Lodge, Hornsey, who died at Brighton, Nov. 11, 1872, aged 61." Messrs. John H. Mole and Son, 11 Gray's Inn-sq., solicitors for Mrs. Coley, are looking after the affairs of the deceased, and, as at present arranged, the funeral, which will be carried out by Hutton and Son, undertakers, of Newgate-st., Strand, will take place at noon on Wednesday.

VICTIM'S EYE KNOCKED OUT.

Dr. Webster gives it as his opinion that the death took place in the early hours of the morning. The deceased gentleman had 1 eye knocked completely out, and, as indicative of the severity of the struggle with the burglars, it is stated that 1 of the fingers of the left hand was literally torn off. As it was Mr. Smith's custom before going to bed to lock all the room doors on the outside, the burglars, it is suggested, had soon discovered that they were locked in. They had no other implements with them, it is believed, than one or two small jemmies, with candle and lantern. So they searched the cupboard in the kitchen, which contained a large number of tools; and, unfortunately for the deceased, they found in one of them a drill. This was precisely what the burglars wanted. They got to work with it as silently as they could upon the wood above the bolt of the door; and while they were so occupied, Mr. Smith, aroused from his sleep by the sound, came down the stairs in night shirt, stockings, and slippers, with candle in hand, unlocked the kitchen door, and was instantly among the burglars. What followed is difficult to narrate with precision. A tablecloth was torn into strips to make the bonds with which the limbs were fastened, and cloths completely enveloped the head. After killing their victim—in order probably that he might not be able to identify his assailants—the burglars ransacked the house; they found his keys in the pockets of his trousers in the bed-room. With them the safe was unlocked, and there is little doubt that the burglars were quite familiar, not only with the situation of the wires, but also with the principle on which they were supposed to act. It is said that the alarms were devised with considerable ingenuity, and that the connecting wires were so sensitive that on more than one occasion a dog or a cat running across the garden had exploded the cartridge. Success with which the alarm wires in the garden were avoided or removed without exploding the detonator is a remarkable feature in the case, and there is very little doubt that the burglars were quite familiar, not only with the situation of the wires, but also with the principle on which they were supposed to act.

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No WOMAN ALLOWED ON THE PREMISES.

Webber, the gardener, who lives with his wife in a little cottage opposite Muswell Lodge, speaks in the highest terms of his dead master, whom he had served for 11 years. Webber said he had been cautioned not to talk on the subject of the murder, but he volunteered the statement that he believed the murderers made their way to the house through the front gate, and decamped by the rear through the wood. Mr. Smith said he did the housework between them, and no woman ever entered.

LATEST DETAILS: ARREST EXPECTED.

Up to 8 o'clock last night, writes a "People" reporter, no arrest had been made in connection with the tragedy. A large number of persons had visited the spot, and general indignation was expressed, many of those who assembled having on many occasions been the recipients of the deceased gentleman's charity. It is now believed that at least £800 was stolen from the safe, which was found open after the discovery of Mr. Smith's dead body. The money, however, is believed to have been all in sovereigns, so that it will be practically impossible to trace its disposal and whereabouts. The deceased was in the habit of carrying on his person a purse full of gold, and he had, it is said, a perfect destruction of bank notes. The thieves apparently had obtained knowledge of these facts, it being beyond all doubt that they possessed themselves of every detail connected with the inner working of the unfortunate gentleman's establishment.

For some weeks past 3 strangers, 2 of them very well dressed, have been observed in the neighbourhood, and suspicion naturally at

tached to them, the more so that they have disappeared since the terrible crime of Friday morning. The police theory, however, is divided. Some of the force attribute the burglary and murder to the action of an experienced gang of burglars, who for some few months past have been very busy in the suburbs of the metropolis, and have succeeded in carrying away a large amount of property estimated in value at some thousands of pounds. Others regard the latest and most terrible of the burglary series as the work of 2 individuals living in the neighbourhood, this view, apparently, being the outcome of the fact that every movement and precaution taken by the deceased had evidently been carefully studied and taken advantage of. Throughout yesterday afternoon the public-houses near the house were besieged, and some discreditable scenes occurred, the police having considerable difficulty in keeping the morbidly inclined public in order. It is stated that some time ago some men visited one of the public-houses in the district and led the conversation going on in the bar to the death of the Islington miser, whose dead body was found about a year ago, every receptacle in the house being filled with coins which he had accumulated. On this occasion Mr. Smith was alluded to by the strangers, and the police were yesterday engaged in endeavouring to obtain accurate descriptions of the parties alluded to. The authorities display the greatest reticence in giving information, but so great has been the activity displayed by the police that descriptions of several suspected persons have been telegraphed to all the leading ports and provincial towns, and an arrest is hourly expected.

A later report states that no arrest has been made up to midnight. The theory of the burglary and murder having been committed by some persons residing in the neighbourhood has been acted upon with a considerable amount of vigour, several of the inhabitants in the district having been interviewed by the detectives from Scotland Yard. Nothing of importance, however, who are being interviewed in the way of giving information, are sanguine that they are on the track of at least one of the perpetrators of the outrage, and that an arrest will be made within the next 24 hours. It was rumoured in the small hours of this morning that an arrest had been made, but we were unable to obtain any confirmation of the rumour.

ENTERED FROM THE FRONT.

The lodge has now been placed in charge of 2 constables, and was yesterday visited and searched throughout by the detectives. A close examination of the gravel has been made, and it has been ascertained that the burglars gained entrance to the lodge from the front, and not at the rear, as most of the reports state. There are, however, evidences of attempts to force the scullery window, but the thieves eventually effected an entrance at the front of the house.

PRECAUTIONS OF THE BURGLARS.

The Central News says:—No credence is given to the suggestion that murder was the original object of the criminals. The footmarks in the garden lead the police to the conclusion that certainly 2, and possibly 3, persons were engaged in the crime. The success with which the alarm wires in the garden were avoided or removed without exploding the detonator is a remarkable feature in the case, and there is very little doubt that the burglars were quite familiar, not only with the situation of the wires, but also with the principle on which they were supposed to act. It is said that the alarms were devised with considerable ingenuity, and that the connecting wires were so sensitive that on more than one occasion a dog or a cat running across the garden had exploded the cartridge.

They were raised on iron supports, about 18 inches from the ground, and so arranged that it was almost impossible to approach the house without coming in contact with one of them. It was, however, a matter of common local knowledge that the premises were protected in this manner, and there is little doubt that the burglars were in this respect forewarned. At any rate, nearly all the wires which they had to pass over were removed from the iron supports and laid carefully on the ground. The broken furniture and the disturbed state of the kitchen generally show that the unfortunate gentleman was engaged in a desperate struggle with his assailants, and it is quite possible that one or other of them received some injury. Acting on this theory the police have been making diligent search and inquiries in quarters frequented by suspected persons, but up to the present without success. Judging from the quantity of blood which was spilt, there is little doubt that some must have got on to the clothes of the murderers, and this may prove a clue of considerable value. Chief-insp. Marshall, of Scotland Yard, and Det.-insp. Nutkins, of the Royal Household, who lives with his wife in a little cottage opposite Muswell Lodge, were the first who saw him after the tragedy. Webber is able to add little to the facts already published, and is quite positive that he has not spoken to anyone about the precautions which he and his master took against burglars. He is very much distressed, and has undoubtedly lost a generous master.

It is a popular error to report that no ladies were admitted to Muswell Lodge. On the contrary, Mr. Smith possessed a splendid grand piano, and much relished the occasional visits of ladies resident in the vicinity who could amuse him with music, especially that of a classical character.

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ST. GEORGE'S ELECTION PETITION.

SENSATIONAL INCIDENT YESTERDAY.

Yesterday the hearing of the election petition presented by Mr. J. W. Bonn (R.) against the return of Mr. H. Marks (U.) for St. George's Division of Tower Hamlets, was resumed at the Law Courts before Baron Pollock and Mr. Justice Bruce. The same counsel appeared as before.—Rebecca Brown, lately in the employ of Mr. Silver, editor of the "Eastern Post," continuing her evidence, stated that she had known persons leave Beaconsfield House for the purpose of canvassing for Mr. Marks.—Cross-examined.—

WITNESS WAS BROUGHT TO HIS CHAMBERS. While in consultation he was told that there was a servant in Silver's employ whose proof had not been taken. He decided that it was not possible to proceed until the girl's evidence was taken, and she was brought to his chambers on the Thursday evening. He would give the names of all who were present when she was examined, but he had not the slightest conception of anyone outside to whom the woman was referring.—Mr. Cock said witness had sworn that she only saw one gentleman, and he was not in court.—Baron Pollock said the court considered this a most serious case, and would leave it in the hands of the Public Prosecutor to deal with it as he thought proper. It had not been his lordship's practice either to commit or direct the prosecution of a person in matters of that kind.—Mr. Francis said that after what had fallen from his lordship he should not ask for the committal of this witness, but would communicate with the Public Prosecutor, and would ask their lordships to order the woman to be in attendance on Monday morning.—Baron Pollock, having had the witness recalled, warned her that she was not in attendance at 11 o'clock on Monday morning she would subject herself to serious consequences.—Adjourned.

SALE OF PICTURES.

Yesterday, Messrs. Christie, Manson and Woods sold at their rooms, King-street, St. James's, a collection of pictures from various private sources. The following prices were realized:—

"The New Keeper," by C. B. Barber, 1883, 131gs.; "En Route to Falkirk Tryst," by T. S. Cooper, R.A., exhibited at the Royal Academy, 1883, 135gs.; "On a Farm in East Kent: Saltwell Castle," by T. S. Cooper, R.A., exhibited at the Royal Academy, 1883, 180gs.; "The Lord of the Manor," by Haywood Hardy, 92gs.; "Asking a Favour," by Erskine Nicol, A.R.A., 145gs. &c.

ELOPEMENT FROM BECKENHAM.

Yesterday a good deal of excitement prevailed at Beckenham on its becoming known that a young lady had eloped with the assistant of the family butcher. Nothing had openly transpired previously to suggest any intrigue between the two. It appears that the young man had decided to leave his situation, and the young lady, yielding to his persuasions, packed up a box and smuggled it out of the house during the night. The couple were traced to Penge railway station.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

Major Gostling, Royal Scots, now adjt. of the 6th Volunteer Battalion, Royal Scots, was yesterday selected for the post of adjt. in command of the 1st Battalion, Royal Scots at Chatham, in place of Major Mony, who retires from the Army on completing 25 years service.

To-morrow, Lieut.-col. Huntley will give up command of the 2nd Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment, at Cambridge Barracks, Woolwich, on the expiration of his period of service, and will be succeeded by Major Hobart, second in command of the 1st Battalion, Royal Regt., who has served 28 years in the Lincolnshire Regt.

On Friday Col. Garth will be placed on the retired list after a total of 32 years service. He served in the King's Own Scottish Borderers, participating in the Afghan war of 1880. He commanded the 1st Battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers, and was afterwards for 5 years commandant of the 25th Regimental District at Berwick-upon-Tweed.

The following appointments have been notified at the Admiralty:—

Devonport: Lightening left for Portland, 14th; Grafenwied left.

Portsmouth: Channel Squadron arrived, 14th; Neptune arrived, 14th.

Newhaven: Shellsack arrived, 14th.

A commission has been granted Squadron-sgt.

mas. Baxter, Canterbury Cavalry Depot, who becomes riding master of 1st Lancers with the hon. rank of lieutenant. Lieut. mas. H. E. Hanlon to Royal Artillery, and Lieut. mas. J. G

CIGARETTE PAPERS.
By JOSEPH HATTON.

America and the Press.
There is one thing that would do more than anything else in the world to promote the good will of America towards England, and that is the production of a cable message to express or threaten a word. Then we should have every morning and evening in the English newspapers a reflection of the previous day's American life. The English Press has done other absolutely necessary expenses in recording the current history of Europe, where British commercial interests are complicated with everlasting possibilities of war, that it has no great margin left for the ordinary news of the States, which includes all those little incidents of daily life that go to make the best kind of history and provide the most reliable estimates of character. To complete an international friendship we require to know more of each other. Americans travelling in Europe feel it almost as an affront that the news of the States is not reported in the English Press at a twentieth part of the length that English news is reported in the American newspapers. Unfortunately, in this connection the news sent across from this side is too often garbled to suit the supposed appetites of American readers, political bias given to events that are really non-political, and simple facts that should stand for what they are worth coloured and distorted to make lively reading. If we had a constant and full cable intercourse with America through the press, this kind of thing would soon be corrected. Any great daily that will undertake to give America full and fair representation in its columns will not only add to its fortunes, but will promote in an incalculable measure the blessings of peace and civilisation.

Does Not Love England, but Admires Her.

What I mean by American news is a comprehensive view of the daily life of the people, and are to us in blood, in business, and in a righteous ambition that and the disrepute of our independent kith and kin. I am speaking of the native American, our relation, bone of our bone, to war with whom is the same as if we should drift into civil strife. Americans were Englishmen until they signed the Declaration of Independence, and even mixed up as they are with the peoples of every clime, they maintain the British tradition—they mould themselves on British models of progress. There have been debates in Congress of late which might, with great advantage, have been reported in the English papers, since they voiced the opinions of the Republic both for and against us, and gave us a far closer view of what the people think and say than a mere correspondent's estimate. The other day we did have a summary of a senatorial speech that was very favourable to us; it might well have been followed by the no less remarkable oration of Mr. Frye immediately afterwards in Congress. The speaker does not love England, but admires her. He sets forth against her every charge of selfishness towards the United States that he can think of, flings at her the tyranny that led to American freedom, her conduct during the war of North and South (and of course forgets our best side in that business), taunts us with our Mexican policy, and raises points of controversy that would have been answered over a cable in America now had full recourse been had. He acknowledged the splendid greatness of England, but held that she is no friend to America. In this connection I feel sure that if England will only try to put herself in America's place the mother country will find out more sympathetic lines of feeling towards her proud and sensitive offspring. "But, Mr. President," said the American Congressman, "I think that one of the grandest things in all the history of Great Britain is that she does protect her subjects everywhere, and under all circumstances."

"Who Would Not Die for Such a Land."

And then he told the story of the Abyssinian war, and told it with a glow of eloquence ringing with a patriotic pride that would have done honour to an English platform. The King of Abyssinia put an Englishman into a dungeon without cause assigned. It took six months for England to find that out. Then King Theodore was asked to release the captive. He refused. In less than ten days ten thousand English soldiers were sailing to his release. They took him from his prison and put him on board an English ship. That war cost England twenty-five million dollars, and gave to the English commander the title of Lord Napier of Magdala. "That was a great thing for a great country to do—a country that had an eye that can see all across the ocean, all across the land, up the mountain height to the fortress of Magdala, and away down to the darksome dungeon, her one subject out of thirty-eight millions; and then has an arm strong enough to stretch across the same ocean, across the same lands, up the same mountain heights, down to the same dungeon, and then lift him out and carry him home to his own country and friends. In God's name, who would not die for such a land? I do not wonder that every Englishman loves his country." The moral of the story which Mr. Frye pointed out was that America should act up to this ideal in regard to Armenia, and rescue her missionaries and their property. There are no higher tribute paid to England than are being constantly paid by America, who is for ever seeking out some English example for a fine and noble national policy. Why should we not seek to satisfy her laudable ambition with a cordial admiration, free from a certain cynical criticism that is the poor disuse of a want of appreciation that often characterises the intercourse of blood relations.

Germans in America.
There is a great deal of human nature in all this. Angry as America was with us quite recently, the moment that it seemed as if England might have to draw her sword upon a world in arms against us, the wrath of America was assuaged, and she came over to us in sympathy as she would no doubt have done in fact. At least that is how we like to think of her, just as we assuredly should go to her aid if she were unduly pressed by some foreign foe. Many a man has had cause to regret stepping in between a quarrelling man and wife. There are diplomats who credit Germany with working against us in America. She is undoubtedly powerful over there, none the less so the Irish, Irish; but there are Irish and Irish, as there are Germans and Germans.

If our Irish fellow-subjects have emigrated in consequence of what they conceive to be the disabilities of British rule, most of the Germans in America are refugees from a despotic Government and a military tyranny. I have talked to many of Germans in America and in England, who, while they find their way in the free lands of England and America, confess that their chief object in getting away from Germany has been to shake off her unbearable laws and the slavery of her military system. These are not the men who are likely to desire the crippling and humiliation of England. In South Africa there is a strong and powerful German element in opposition to any interference by the Emperor of Germany.

Lord Leighton and the Poor Student.

There was a promising young artist in the Royal Academy Schools. He was anxious to compete for the travelling studentship. His poverty, however, prevented him from incurring the expense of models, materials, and time. It became known that for this reason he had given up all hope of taking his place in the competition. He had a picture on exhibition at one of the Bond-street galleries. The price at which it was catalogued was 50 guineas. One day a certain R.A. went to the gallery and saw the work. Meeting a friend he said, "I wish you would in a quiet way tell young So-and-So that he has put too small a figure upon his picture at the such-and-a-gallery; it should be at the least 100 guineas." The young student, surprised by this suggestion, laughingly said, "Oh, very well; it won't make any difference one way or the other, the picture is not likely to be sold; one puts any kind of price on an early work, don't you know?" A few days afterwards he was informed that the picture was sold, that the purchaser had paid for it, and the directors of the gallery "begged to enclose a cheque for the same." It is only since Lord Leighton's death that it has leaked out who was the purchaser. The late President lived for the Academy, and the endowment of the poor student with money enough to go on with his work, without any loss of self-respect, is only one of the many incidents of the master's sympathetic nature.

A Story of Fatherland.

Over a cigarette at the Travellers' Club one evening this week an Englishman who knows the world told me this story of a German friend with whom he had recently parted in Berlin. As a lad the enterprising son of the Fatherland left his home in a little Prussian town not far from the capital to make his fortune in America. His one great hope in life was to get money enough to spend the balance of his life in the Fatherland, rich and independent. After some years the sweetheart of his boyish days went over to him and they were married. They had children, and were very happy; but still the dear old German Fatherland was their one supreme thought. Eventually the golden days came. The clever German invented a new process in connection with the manufacture of certain textile fabrics, and after working it for some years at a big profit sold out his interest in the company to make his fortune in America. 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DENOUNCED!

A ROMANCE.

BY

JOHN BLOUNDELLE-BURTON

AUTHOR OF

"THE ADVENTURES OF VISCOUNT ABERLY,"
"THE DESERT SHIP," "THE MISPANIOLA
PLATE," "MIS OWN ENEMY," "THE SILENT
SHORE," "A GENTLEMAN-ADVENTURER," ETC.

"The adder lies in the cobra's nest."

JACOBUS HALLAD.

CHAPTER V.

MY LORD GOES OUT OF TOWN.

On the day after Bertie Elphinston received the letter from his lost love, Lady Fordingbridge, his lordship himself set out from London to journey into Cheshire, there to visit his estate in that county. He had previously intimated to his wife—who had told Father Sholto of the fact—that he intended being absent from London for some weeks; indeed, had asked her whether it was her desire to accompany him. To this question or invitation her ladyship, had however, returned the usual monosyllabic answer which she generally accorded him, and had briefly replied "No." Then, being pressed by him to give some reason for her refusal to accompany him, she had turned round with that bright blaze in her blue eyes which he had learnt to dread, and had exclaimed:

"Why pester me—especially when we are alone—with these useless questions and formalities? We have arranged, decided the mode in which our existences are to be passed, if passed together—it is enough. We remain together ostensibly, on the condition that I share this house with you—I will have no other part in your false life. And if you cannot conform to this arrangement, then even this appearance of union cannot be—severed."

The viscount bit his lips after her cold contemptuous tones, yet, with that strange power which he possessed, he overmastered the burning rage that rose up in his heart against her. Only he added himself now, as often before he had asked himself, would he always be able to exercise such control; able to restrain from bursting forth against her, and by so doing put an end to the artificial existence they were living?

But now the morning had come for him to depart for the country; outside in the square he could hear the horses shaking their harness while his carriage waited for him; it was time for him to go. Therefore he went to his wife's morning room and found her ladyship taking her chocolate.

"I come, madam," he said, with that usual assumption of courtliness which he always treated her to since they had become estranged, "to bid you farewell for some few weeks. I will notify you by the post of my proposed return. Meanwhile your ladyship need not be dull. You have the entry now to the Court circles, you have also your respected father with you in this house. And there are many friends of your younger days in London"—he shot an evil oblique glance at her out of the corner of his eye as he said this, which was not lost on her—"to wit, Mr. Archibald and—others. Doubtless ere I return you may have renewed some of your earlier acquaintanceships. They should be agreeable."

For answer she gave him never a word, but, stirring her cup of chocolate leisurely, looked him straight in the face; then she let her eyes fall on the journal she had been perusing and again commenced to do so as though he were not in the room.

"Curse her," muttered her husband to himself as his indifference stung him to the quick. "Curse her; ere long the bolt shall be sped." Then aloud he exclaimed:

"My lady, as is ever the case, I perceive my presence is unwelcome. Once more I bid you adieu," and took himself out of the room and also out of the house. And so he set forth upon his journey.

For a young man on the road to his old family seat, Lord Fordingbridge was that morning strangely preoccupied and indifferent to the events around him, and sat in his carriage huddled up in one corner of it more like an elderly sick man than aught else.

The cheerful bustle of the village of Falington, the pretty country village at Highgate, the larks singing over Finchley Common and Isley Green, had no power to rouse him from his stupor—if stupor it was—nor either had the bright sun and the warm balmy spring air that came in at the open windows, a strange way for an English nobleman to set out upon his journey to the place where his forefathers had dwelt for ages! A strange way, indeed, considering that he might be regarded as an extremely fortunate man. The head of a family with strong Stuart tendencies, and suspected of himself participating in those tendencies, he had yet been at once received into favour by the King on returning to London. This alone should have made his heart light within him, for he had but now to conform to that King's demands to pass the rest of his existence in peace and full enjoyment of his comfortable means, to feel that his father's and his family's Jacobitism was forgotten; that all was well with him. George was now welcoming to his fold every exiled Jacobite who had not openly fought or plotted and schemed against him in the recent invasion, and many peers and gentlemen who had long lived in exile were hastening to tender their adherence to the German king, feeling perfectly sure that, after the events of the past three months, the day of the Stuarts was past and gone for ever.

Why, therefore, could not Simon Larpen look forward as hopefully to the future as all his brother exiles who had returned were doing? Why? Was it because of the enmity of his wife to him, an enmity which he knew could never slacken; or was it because of his fear of that one other man whom he had so deeply wronged; or because of what his scheming mind was now fashioning? This we shall see.

The roads were heavy with the recent spring showers so that the four horses of his coach could drag it but tediously along them, and it was nightfall ere South Mimms was reached, and night itself ere they arrived at St. Albans, and Lord Fordingbridge descended at the Angel. To the bowing landlord he gave his name, and stated that he wished a bed-room and a parlour for himself, and a room for his men; and then, as he was about to follow his obsequious host up the

broad staircase, he said, pulling out his watch.

"It is now after seven. At nine I expect to be visited by a gentleman whom I have appointed to meet me here. His name is Captain Morris. You will please entertain him at my cost to-night, and do so at your best. On his arrival, if he hath not supped, ask him to do so; if he hath, show him in at once to me. Now I will prepare for my own meal."

Again Boniface bowed low—lower even than before, now that he had become acquainted with his visitor's rank and position—and escorted him to a large, comfortable bed-room on the first floor, in which a cheerful fire burnt in the grate. And, throwing open two heavy folding doors, he showed next a bright sitting-room, also with a fire, and well lit.

"This will do very well," said his lordship. "Send my servant to me with my valise. And let him wait on me at table."

All through the repast he partook of the viscount meditated gloomily and gravely, eating but little of the substantial meal provided by the landlord, drinking sparingly, and addressing no remark to his servant. Then, when he had finished, he laid his chair drawn up before the fire, a bottle of wine and another of brandy placed on the table, and, bidding the servant withdraw and bring Captain Morris to him when he should arrive, he again fell to meditating and musing, speaking sometimes aloud to himself.

"It is the only way," he muttered, in disconnected sentences, "the only way. And it must be done at one swoop; otherwise it is useless. So long as one of them is free I am fettered. The only way! And—then—when that is accomplished—to deal with you, my lady. Let me see."

Whereon he began counting on his fingers and tapping the tips as still he pondered, touching first his forefinger then the second and third, and once or twice nodding his head as though well satisfied with himself.

"As for Fane," he muttered next, "he scarce counts. Yet he, too, must be taken care of. But of that later. Doubtless when I begin with my lady—damn her!—he will become revengeful, but before he can do so—well, he will be harmless. So, so. It should work."

The clock struck nine as he spoke, and he compared it with his great tortoiseshell watch, and then sat listening. The inn was very quiet; he doubted if any other travellers were staying in it, especially as the coach from London passed through early in the day, but outside in the street there were signs of life. The rustics bade each other good-night as they passed; a woman's laugh broke the air now and again; sometimes a dog barked. And at last, above these sounds, he heard a horse's hoofs clattering along the street as though riding fast.

"That," said his lordship, "may be he. 'Tis very possible. For one of his Majesty's servants, he is none too punctual."

As he spoke the horse drew up with still more celerity at the porch below his window, and he heard a clear firm voice ask if Lord Fordingbridge had that day arrived from London. And two or three moments later his servant knocked at the door, and entering, said that Captain Morris was come.

"Has he supped?"

"He says he requires nothing, my lord, but desires to see you at once. He rides to Hertford to-night, he bid the landlord say, and has but little time at his disposal."

"So be it. Show him in," and a moment later Captain Morris entered the room.

A man of something more than middle-age, this gentleman's features, aquiline and clear-cut, presented the appearance of belonging to one in whom great ability as well as shrewdness and common sense were combined. Tall and extremely thin, his undress riding-habit of dark blue, embroidered with gold lace, set off his figure to extreme advantage, while the light of a sword he carried by his side, his gold-brimmed three-cornered hat with its black cockade, and his long riding boots, all served to give him the appearance of an extremely gentlemanly and elegant man.

"Welcome, sir," said Lord Fordingbridge, advancing to meet him with extended hand, while at the same time he noticed—and took account of—the clear grey eyes, the thin lips, and aquiline nose of his visitor. "Welcome, sir. That is of course," said Captain Morris. "Now, tell me, if you please, where this man is to be found. I am glad you have been able to reach here to-night. To-morrow I must resume my journey. Be seated, I beg."

"The orders which I received from London," replied Captain Morris, in a clear, refined voice that corresponded perfectly with his appearance, "made it imperative that I should call on you to-night. As your lordship may be aware, in this locality I have certain duties to perform which can be entrusted to no one else."

"I am aware of it," Fordingbridge replied. Then he said, "before we commence our conversation, let me offer you a glass of wine or brandy. The night is raw, and you have doubtless ridden long."

Captain Morris bowed, said he would drink a glass of wine, and when he had poured it out of the decanter, let it stand by his side untouched for that moment. Then he continued:

"I understand, my lord, that I am to receive from your lips to-night some information of considerable importance to his Majesty, touching those who have been engaged in plotting against his security. May I ask you to tell me at once with what you have to do with me? I have still some distance to ride to-night, and also other work to do."

"Yes," answered Fordingbridge, "you have been exactly informed. You—how to tell—how to begin, I scarcely know. My object is to put in the King's hands, without, of course, letting it be known that the information relating to some notorious Jacobites now sheltering in London. Men who are—"

"Your lordship is indeed an ardent partisan," coldly replied Captain Morris; "the King is much to be congratulated on this good a convert."

"The King will, I trust, reward my devotion. The Stuarts have never shown any gratitude for all that has been done for them—by my family as much as any. Now, Captain Morris, he went on, "I have told you all that I have to tell. I have simply to ask that in no way shall it be divulged—so, indeed, I have the promise of his Majesty's Ministers that nothing shall be divulged—as to the source whence this information is derived. It is absolutely necessary that I appear not at all in the matter."

"That is understood. The Secretary of State for Scotch affairs, from whom I receive my instructions, knows your lordship's desire, without a doubt."

"Very little of any importance," he replied. "The night coach through St. Albans brings me a letter from his Lordship trusting I shall be happy during his enforced absence. Fauh! Also there is one by the French packet from Kathleen Musker. Her uncle, the priest at Marly, is removed to St. Roch. Lady Belfore, whose acquaintance I made a month ago at Leicester House, writes desiring me to accompany her to the masquerade at Vauxhall. I thought to-night, she says, the King will be there."

"Good, my child, good. And what for not? 'Twill do good to see some life to—"

"To see some life!" she repeated, "see some life!" In the midst of death, all around us!"

"Death!" the old man repeated. "Death! Faith, I did not know it. Death! That too," replied Morris, "I what death is there around us?"

"Yet," remarked Lord Fordingbridge, "will make a note of for the Secretary's consideration. I wish you now, my at him. 'Is there not death all

around—threatening those whom we love, whom we loved once? Do you know that London is at the present moment full of followers of the Pretender's march into England. They will stop at nothing if, with a quick glance at the other, 'they are not themselves first stopped."

"Give me their names, if you please," said Morris with military precision, as he produced from his pocket a notebook, "and where they are to be found."

"Their names are Bertie Elphinston and Douglas Sholto—the former a kinsman of the Lord Balmoral. Both have lived in exile in France, serving in the French King's army, one in the Garde du Roi at first, and then in the Regiment of Picardy. The other, Sholto, has served in the Mous-

hawk, is crowded with such men, all of whom have soon to stand their trial for high treason. Men of whom we know many, some of whom were your pupils! Father, this is not time for masquerades."

For a moment the old man gazed at her with solemn eyes, as to gauge endeavouring to penetrate her mind, to discover if behind her words there lay any hidden meaning; then he awoke, in so polite a manner as to gratify the good woman's heart, if he might scrawl a line at her table, whereat she sat sewing and surrounded by her bottles and glasses. Buxom ladies rarely refuse politeness to persons of Captain Morris's position, especially when so captivatingly arrayed as he was in his undress bravery, and as he wrote his message and sealed it she thought him gallant a gentleman he was.

Then he looked up and enquired if there was any other or idle postboy about the place who could ride with a letter for him to-morrow morning to Dunstable, and receiving a reply in the affirmative, paid for his cordial, in the hire of the next morning messenger, and his horse's feed, and so bade her a cheerful goodnight.

"Are there any—any others?" he almost whispered. But still her clear blue eyes regarded him, and she spoke no word.

"Well, well," he said a moment after. "Perhaps it may be, even after so many years, that I do not deserve your confidence. Yet, Kitty, I was nigh as much deceived in some things as you were. Child," he said, hanging across the table as she spoke, "I swear to you I thought that man who came to us was, in truth, the priest, the curé of Moret. How could I know he was a paid creature of Larpent's, a vile cheat, instead of the man who, as I supposed, had tied the hands of Bertie El—?"

"Stop," said his daughter, "stop. Don't mention that again. Let it be done with, forgotten; dead and buried. It is past! Over! I—I—am Lord Fordingbridge's wife."

"Yes, I must ask. I must know. Nay, I do know. Fordingbridge hinted as much to me ere he set out. Kitty, and now his voice sank to a whisper that none but she could have heard, even though in the room, "is he in London?"

"The Viscount Fordingbridge passes through Dunstable to-morrow in his coach on his road to Cheshire. From the time he does so until he returns through your town to London he is to be followed and watched and never lost sight of. Let me be kept acquainted with all his movements—especially as a special courier, if needful.—Now, MORMIS, CAPTAIN."

CHAPTER VI.

KATE MAKES AN APPOINTMENT.

Between Lady Fordingbridge and her father a better state of things existed than that which prevailed between her and her husband. Indeed, Kitty, who could not forgive her husband, could not, at the same time, bring herself to regard her father's share in that treachery in an equally black a light. She knew that it was the actual truth that he had been much in debt to Simeon Larpent (as he was then), and she had brought herself also to believe that which he constantly assured her was also the truth—and, perhaps, might have been—that Larpent would have proceeded against him for his debt, in spite of what I once did, partly in ignorance—unwittingly. I myself loved Larpent. And I did—honestly I did—believe that he had married Mademoiselle Baumfrent."

"Well," she said, "well, he bad not. Enough of that. And, since you ask me to trust you once again as I trusted you before, I answer you—remember, my life, as well as Douglas Sholto's, are in your hands—he is in London. Both are left the room when the others drew apart—perhaps he guessed that Sholto had some message for his daughter—so that now they could speak at ease. For a moment Lady Fordingbridge seemed lost in thought as though struggling between conflicting desires, one to see again the man she loved, the other to know that he was safe, a third to remember that he had been betrayed by his wife. Then suddenly, she said:

"You are right. 'Tis best we should not meet. Yet—yet—you say he will not quit England without our doing so."

"I fear not. And time is precious. Remember, though the names are not in the list, they may be at any moment. Or he, or both of them, may be denounced. Many of Cumberland's and Cope's regiments are based in London; they may be recruited to serve against him, then fought, and, if that were the case, their chance of existence would be small. Kitty, if you are strong enough, as you should be, 'tis almost best that you should see him. Then he can go in peace."

"I am strong enough," she replied.

"I have no fear of me; I have none of myself. Yet, how can it be? He cannot come here—I cannot go to him. But, oh! to hear from his own lips that he forgave me, that he would think of me sometimes without bitterness."

"What answer shall I give him, then?"

"Eagerly. If you hate him meet you in George's Throne-room he would contrive to be there."

"When do you see him again?" she asked.

"To-night, after dark."

"So be it. To-night you shall bear him a message from me. Now, leave me a little while. At dinner we will meet again. Then, then, I will ask you to carry a note to him."

"Have you seen him?" he asked, still in a low voice.

He knew that in London, at this time, walls had almost ears, and that every footman or waiting-maid might be a spy of the Government—especially in a house but recently re-opened after many years of disuse, and, consequently, possessing a staff of servants new to their employers, and taking neither interest nor sympathy in their affairs.

She pined to see this man whom in her own heart she accused herself of having deceived; yet she dreaded the hour when she should face to face with him. Alas! how could she look into his eyes—eyes that she feared would look back but sternly upon her—and plead for forgiveness, remembering that, had he been true and believed in him, she who now met him strangers now in its midst: the house of a nobleman returned recently from France—the birthplace of the late invasion—and known to be a Catholic, would, therefore, be a particularly likely object to be subjected to supervision, quiet, yet effectual.

"No," she replied; "no, I have not seen him. God forbid I should. And if I did the only words I could, I think, find heart to utter would be to beseech him to fly at once. Oh, father, father, I dread some awful calamity, though I know not in what form or shape it may come."

As she spoke a tap was heard at the door, and a second afterwards, Father Sholto entered the room, while so much had her ladyship's fears and tremors overcome her and her father, that both exclaimed at once, in the same words, "Is all well?"

"In so far as I know," he replied, after having exchanged morning greetings with them. "As well as all will ever be. Why do you ask? Have you reason to dread again?"

"No, no," Kitty replied. "Yet, I know not why. I am strangely uneasy, strangely nervous to-day. Some feeling of impending ill seems to hang over me."

"Yet," said Sholto, "if omens are to be supposed to have any power, no such feeling should trouble you to-day. Kitty, I bear good news—"

"Good news!" she exclaimed. From—"

"From an acquaintance of mine—one who is in the office of the Scotch Secretary of State. 'Nay,' he went on, seeing the look of disappointment on her face, and knowing she had expected matter of a different kind, 'tis worth hearing. Among the names of those

OUR OMNIBUS.

PIPER PAN.

The National Sunday League's concert at Queen's Hall last Sunday evening was especially devoted to the memory of Sir Joseph Barnby and included his oratorio, "Rebekah," the exquisite anthem, "Grant to us, Lord," and the motett, "King All Glorious." I may as well mention here that it has been decided to affix a brass tablet to the walls of the chapel of Eton College in memory of the lamented composer and conductor, who filled the post of precentor to the college for seventeen years.

After a good deal of discussion Mr. Frederic Cowen has been appointed conductor of the Liverpool Philharmonic Concerts and the Hallé Concerts, Manchester. The wisdom of this choice cannot be questioned. Mr. Cowen's experience as conductor of the London Philharmonic concert for a period of five years, his own orchestral concerts in 1880, and as assistant conductor at her Majesty's Opera in this country; also of orchestral concerts in Australia and the United States have gained for him a world-wide celebrity, and he will undoubtedly prove in his new post that he is the "right man in the right place."

There are several excellent sacred concerts and oratorio performances announced for Ash Wednesday. The Queen's Hall Choral Society will give the "Hymn of Praise" and Rossini's "Stabat Mater" in the afternoon, and the Royal Albert Choral Society will perform Gounod's "Redemption" in the evening. There will also be a grand sacred concert at St. James's Hall, and a London Ballad Concert of sacred selections at Queen's Hall, both taking place in the evening.

Mr. Henry Leslie, formerly for 25 years conductor of the famous "Henry Leslie Choir," died last week at the age of 73. It is curious that the death of this eminent musician, who was equally celebrated at one time, should have occurred almost immediately after that of Sir Joseph Barnby. But Henry Leslie was of the past, and was laid to rest with the quietude befitting his years and retired life, while the younger man naturally received the tribute of present popularity.

It is now definitely decided that Professor Villiers Stanford's new Irish opera, "Shamus O'Brien," shall be produced at the Opera Comique on March 2. Rehearsals of the work have been taking place for some time, so that two more weeks ought to bring the performance up to the point of perfection. Sir Augustus Harris has engaged Mr. Henry J. Wood to conduct the opera, which, it is hoped, will have a run.

Fashion in music is as wayward as in anything else, and this is fully illustrated by the appearance in the bankruptcy court of the at one time immensely popular composer, Milton Wellings. In connection with this case it is worthy of note that "Some Day" was sold for 10 guineas, and "Golden Love" for 8 guineas when they were first written, and the publishers who purchased the two songs afterwards realised nearly £20,000 from them.

Herr Willem Kees, the popular conductor of the Glasgow Choral Union, has been giving concerts in Edinburgh and other Scotch towns. He returns to London at the end of this month, and will remain throughout the season, it being his intention to give special lessons in ensemble music.

The well-known musical agent and entrepreneur, Mr. Daniel Mayer, will give an orchestra concert at St. James's Hall on the evening of March 3. Mark Hambour will play, and Mlle. Givetta, a pupil of Mme. Delasange, of whom report speaks highly, will make her first appearance as vocalist on the occasion.

Madame Antoinette Sterling has concluded her concert tour in America, and will take a holiday until April, when the popular contralto will return to England.

Next Thursday will see pretty Decima Moore united to Captain Walker Leigh, and I am sure that the many friends and admirers of the charming bride-elect cannot send her any better wishes than that she may be as successful on the matrimonial stage as she has always been on the lyric boards.

Herr Wilhelm Kühe gave a "Jubilee" concert at the Dome, Brighton, last week, the occasion being the fiftieth anniversary of his residence in that town as an entrepreneur of music. Lady Hallé, Miss Clara Butt, Miss Florence St. John, Moers, Edward Lloyd, Santley, and Leonard Borwick were among the artists who kindly volunteered their services.

Mr. Manby and Mr. Markham Lee, of Cambridge, have respectively written and composed an Ode in honour of the birth of Prince Edward of York. Rather late in the day, I think, considering the little prince is approaching the second anniversary of his birth.

The series of concerts arranged by the executive of the Sunday Philharmonic Union previous to the death of their late lamented president, Sir Joseph Barnby, have now commenced at the Portman Rooms, and will take place on Sunday evenings until further notice.

Handel's "Messiah" will be performed at Queen's Hall by the National Sunday League Choral Society on Sunday evening, Feb. 16. The vocalists will be Miss Thedium, Miss Hannah Jones, Mr. Harper Kearton, and Mr. Robert Grice, and the choir and orchestra of 30 performers will be conducted by Dr. Churchill Sibley.

Happily there is no truth in the reports of Mr. N. Vert's illness. The popular agent has simply been feeling the effects of over-work and a rough passage to America, and is now quite well and as busy as ever.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

For the following case of the "bitter hit," it is not very unusual amongst birds of prey. I am indebted to a correspondent at West Ham: "One day some years ago my father was walking in a field in the county of Northumberland when he noticed a crow swoop down to the ground and at once rise again, apparently carrying something. It flew round and round and rose to a great height. All at once the bird seemed to close its wings and fall to the ground. My father, on going to the spot, found the crow and a weasel both quite dead." The crow, in attacking the weasel, did so probably by mistake, or it might have been tempted to do so by hunger. The weasel being on the alert, managed to get first bite and hung on till the bird became exhausted and could fly no more. The fall from the great height to which they had ascended undoubtedly accounted for the death of both.

There is a general notion, I think, that man-eating tigers are those animals which, either from old age or disabled limbs, are unable to pursue and catch their ordinary prey and pounce upon human beings unaware because they are easy victims and their capture gives them but little fatigue and exertion.

At the Zoo during the last year or so a series of remarkable experiments amongst

the animals has been carried on by Dr. Lindsay Johnson for the examination of their eyes. Some of the experiments entailed great risk to the examiner, for on many occasions it was necessary for him to get into the cages of some of the savage beasts. He, however, so far has escaped free of any accident, and it is to be hoped that no future mishap will befall him, for some very interesting results have been obtained. Dr. Johnson is not a man whose stature or appearance would strike awe into the breast of any wild animal, but his nerve and commanding manner seem to completely overcome his subjects and make them submit quietly to his examination. To properly observe the eye of the seal it was necessary to be under the water, and to overcome this difficulty quite an elaborate glass diving bell was made with an air tube floated by a piece of cork. Dr. Johnson got into the bell, and the seal was held down for his inspection.

The following account of the strange behaviour of a dog has been sent me by an obliging correspondent of Crampton-street, "King's Cross":— "At Euston Station under one of the arrival platforms may be seen almost daily a small white fox-terrier. He has been in his present curious quarters for the past 3 months, and all attempts to catch him or induce him to leave his shelter have failed. He is fed by a few friendly busmen and others, and looks in good health and condition. On inquiry I found he had been abandoned by his owner, who refused to pay the railway charges, and was handed over to the stableman, from whom he escaped and has ever since remained in this strange abode. As half the platform is completely covered and extends for nearly a quarter of a mile, it is impossible to get at him, and he refuses to make friends with anyone and always keeps well out of reach of any one who tries to catch him."

When first going in for keeping fowls many people purchase their birds promiscuously, regardless of breed, age, and the time they are hatched. This should not be so. The best birds are those hatched early in the spring for they commence to lay in the autumn when later hatched birds are just leaving off, and at the time when eggs are scarce. To ensure a constant supply of eggs, however, I should advise my readers to lay in a stock consisting of half early-hatched fowls and half late-hatched ones. The early birds will lay all through the winter, and when their supply was on the wane the late birds would just be coming on.

I have on many occasions been asked as to which breed of fowls to choose to obtain eggs with rich and dark-colored yolks. I will point out to my friends that it is not the breed that is responsible for the quality of the egg. This is brought about entirely by the feeding. If fowls are fed with good wholesome food at the proper time, and their other wants are properly attended to, rich eggs will be the rule rather than the exception. One has only to compare the yolk of an egg produced by an ill-fed fowl kept in a cramped London backyard and that of an egg produced by a well-fed farmyard bird to see the difference. The first is a light yellow colour and watery, and, if eaten, without flavour, while the latter is of a deep orange colour, thick, and tasty.

The additions to the Zoological Society's menagerie during the week ending Feb. 11 include 2 rufous rat kangaroos, a sharp-nosed crocodile, a West African love-bird, an Alpine marmot, 4 Japanese teat, a common viper, and 2 smews.

THE ACTOR.

The writer who contributed to one of the February magazines the statement that Sir Augustus Harris did not collaborate with Mr. Kielbach and Mr. Sturges in the authorship of the present Drury Lane pantomime, went very far wrong, and his assertion has been promptly contradicted. As a matter of fact, Sir Augustus has always taken an active share in the initiation and preparation of every play and opera with which his name has been associated as part author. He is, however, a fertile in dramatic ideas and construction, and, moreover, he holds a rapid and incisive pen. He has, in fact, considerable literary talent.

I was much interested to hear that Mr. E. Sothern having taken "The Prisoner of Zenda" on tour in the States, the piece had been revived at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, with Mr. Hackett in the title part. The Pisatorial Society had a goodly attendance at their meeting at the Holborn Restaurant (over which Mr. E. T. Sachs presided) on Monday last. Among the fish taken, Mr. Cormac O'Dowd displayed a pretty tray of chub, 6 fish weighing 12lb. 5oz. in all, the largest scaling 2lb. 12oz. The papers read by Dr. Patterson and Mr. C. H. Wheeley have now been printed, and an excellent programme of readings has been arranged for the next six months.

From all I hear the angling tournament to be held at Wimbledon Lake on May 9, promises to be well patronised, anglers from all parts of the country having promised to compete. Many experienced anglers question whether any practical good results from these gatherings, but in any case they do no harm, and bring anglers together who otherwise might have no opportunity of meeting one another. A strong committee supervises the arrangements, and offers of prizes may now be made to Mr. J. Taylor, hon. sec., 69, Hazelwell-nd., Hornsey, N. E.

Mr. A. Wynne Corrie and his brother, Mr. E. V. Corrie, of Chilling, near Winchester, have very kindly offered 1,000 young trout for the Thames, an offer communicated to the Thames Angling Preservation Society through Mr. R. H. Marston, and gladly accepted by them. These fish will be placed in suitable parts of the river within a few days, and a little later on a large quantity of coarse fish are likely to be added from other sources, and the stock of Thames fish increased accordingly.

The Brompton Anglers are contributing 42s. to the Rivers Restocking and Preservation Fund (per editor of the "Fishing Gazette") the result of their smoking concert. I have reason to hope that when the balance is struck last year's amount will be exceeded. If anglers only pull together, there can be no need whatever for a rod tax or any further pretext for forming societies to supplant those already existing. Give the Preservation Societies the means of doing their work, and they will undoubtedly do it well.

I am glad to hear the Battersea Friendly concert was in every way successful, and hope a goodly sum will have been raised for Mr. George Mumford, their old and respected secretary. His familiar face is known to most anglers, and he deserves well of the fraternity.

A correspondent at Hastings wants to know the best bait for grey mullet. The grey mullet is an excessively shy fish, and very difficult to take. "John Bickerdyke" recommends ordinary sooked bread, as soft as can be retained on the hook, baiting with a piece not much larger than a pea. Boiled and unboiled shrimps and prawns, peeled, may be tried, using a little ground bait composed of very young shrimps which are caught in a fine-meshed net and salted down, and the slimy green weed growing on harbour piers is sometimes also a successful lure. The mullet requires a deal of skill and coaxing before he can be brought to bank.

The Anglers' Association delegate meeting takes place on Monday evening at the Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-nd., E.C. The chair will be taken at 8.30 p.m.

GENERAL CHATTER.

Indignation and agony are very visible in numerous letters from owners of pet dogs against the "cruelty" of the County Council in decreeing muzzling. No doubt, dogs object strongly at first to have their jaws tied up, but they soon grow accustomed to the in-

Maria Saker and Miss Maggie Hunt. Miss Saker is a member of the clever theatrical family of that name, a sister of Miss Rose Saker, once so popular at the Criterion. I remember her when she was a young girl acting at the Edinburgh Theatre. Miss Hunt is a more recent acquaintance. One of her earliest successes was made in the country when she played Jane Eyre to the Rochester of the late Charles Kelly. Both ladies have gained in skill, and certainly have lost nothing of their attractiveness.

OLD IZAAK.

The Thames continues in fair angling trim, as indicated by the returns of the last few days, but the water is brighter than anglers like to see it. A quantity of roach and dace have been taken in the tidal portion of the river, and at Teddington Mr. Lepop, of the Horse and Groom, has recently had several nice jack from the Broom Water. Some good roach have been taken from the bank at Hampton Court.

Less appears to have been done in the upper reaches, and a usually successful member of the Pisatorial Society lately trying his luck at Marlow, only secured one undersized fish. Brooks, the ferryman at Cookham, has trapped an ill-conditioned otter there, weighing 11lb., for which he will doubtless be rewarded by the local preservation society.

The most notable take of the week was that of Messrs. Jones and Herbert of Twickenham, who, fishing with John Keene at Datchet, caught a brace of perch (among other fine samples), scaling over 12lb. together. Messrs. Newbury, Baldwin, O'Dowd, and other anglers have also had excellent catches of roach, perch, and chub, piloted by the same fisherman. Mr. T. Gomm and Mr. Hatherley, fishing with Charles Hone at Staines, record the taking of some good chub, roach, perch, and jack. John Smith at Hampton Court, and John Knight, at Kingston, have each piloted their patrons to sport, and the fishermen all say fish are abundant and condition.

The Lea does not come up to the mark, and although here and there a few fish have been taken, the result has been far from satisfactory. Another monster competition is talked of, which, if carried out, it is to be hoped will be more successful than the last.

The Lea apparently wants restocking rather than depletion, and it is surprising that some effort is not made in that direction. Walton's river, or those portions of it open to all anglers, seems to be left to a great extent to take care of itself.

The Arun is in grand condition, and some fine sport has lately been had in the Central Association and other waters, particularly at Amberley. The Great Northern Brothers had a capital show from this quarter at their last meeting. Mr. C. Watling's take including a bream of 3lb. 9oz. Messrs. H. Duncombe and G. Francis also weighed in jack, roach, and dace, and coupled with the takes of Messrs. Hewitt, Blatchley, and Hambridge from the Thames, the tray was thoroughly well filled.

The Welsh Harp Water is looking up. Jack of fair size have been taken rather freely of late. Mr. Preston having two scaling 12lb. together. Mr. Frost had two weighing 12lb. in all, and several other anglers secured fish of from 3lb. to 5lb. each. The Welsh Harp was a famous jack water not long since, and there is no reason why it should not again

yield fish of a like quality.

The Epsom Anglers had a capital meeting on Wednesday last week, when "Tempo" read his entertaining paper on the Thames, and it is satisfactory to find the Thames Angling Society's box was not forgotten. Mr. J. Jefferay, the popular secretary, recently had a day at Chertsey with Lotan Hackett, and secured 12lb. of roach and dace. Fish, he says, were plentiful, and priming every-

thing is a municipal regulation at Birmingham which might be copied with great advantage by London. At the great Midland city, any person who throws slops or rubbish into the streets is liable to punishment, and the magistrates have just signified their resolve to deal sharply for the future with all such offenders. Here in London there are numberless localities where the streets are habitually defiled by being made receptacles for all sorts of foul rubbish, from dead cats to fish intestines. But I have never yet heard of anyone being prosecuted; indeed, it is often done right under the eyes of the police.

The Pisatorial Society had a goodly attendance at their meeting at the Holborn Restaurant (over which Mr. E. T. Sachs presided) on Monday last. Among the fish taken, Mr. Cormac O'Dowd displayed a pretty tray of chub, 6 fish weighing 12lb. 5oz. in all, the largest scaling 2lb. 12oz. The papers read by Dr. Patterson and Mr. C. H. Wheeley have now been printed, and an excellent programme of readings has been arranged for the next six months.

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JACK ALLROUND.

"I cannot get my bread to rise light, and often have to put up with complaints. Kindly give me some hints how I should work—say a peck of flour with dried yeast; that is the only sort I can get here," writes "Farmer's Daughter." "Muriel," and "M. R. S." also want to make bread with "prepared yeast." "H. H." wants to know "how to make a good loaf," but as he works on a larger scale than the above, he must calculate quantities for himself. For peck of flour begin with "the sponge" the last thing before you go to bed. Have a pan large enough to allow the following mixture to rise double its bulk, put into this 2 quarts of warm, not hot, water, a teaspoonful of sugar, about half the flour, and 2 oz. of yeast; stir these into a sponge, place the pan and its ingredients in a nice, warm corner, put a clean sheet across it and over that a cloth, and leave it covered up till you rise in the morning. In from 8 to 12 hours, according to its condition, the sponge will be ready to make the dough, add another quart of warm water, 2 oz. of salt, the remainder of the flour; mix well, and make them into a firm dough. In about an hour after, the dough will be ready to mould into loaves for the oven. Do not let it chill, but keep it warm, and your bread ought from henceforth to be sweet and light.

In reply to "Bill" and "S. S.," iron saucers and pots are sometimes exceedingly tinned at home by handy men, "who know how to use fingers and brains," as "Bill" says he does. As the saucers have been in use there must be grease in them. This must be got rid of, and the way to do that is to place the saucers on the fire and allow it to get nearly red hot. This will obliterate all trace of the grease. Now for a pickle. Make in the following proportions a mixture of oil of vitriol half a pound, muriatic acid a quarter of a pound, water 1 gallon. It is best that you should have enough of the pickle to fill the saucers, and if you have not, move it so as to keep the pickle flowing all over it for about 5 minutes, then pour it out and rinse with water, and so on well with sand and a wisp of tow; again well rinse with water. If it is thoroughly cleaned the entire surface will now present a uniform grey. If, however, you see any black or red spots, it must be pickled and scoured again till completely clean. This being attained, have ready by you chloride of zinc—this you can prepare by dissolving clean sheet zinc in muriatic acid—also have some powdered sal ammoniac, some tow, and an iron rod, which should be about a foot and a half long and from a quarter to three-eights thick. One end of the rod must be bent up, a little flattened out, and made clean; also have some bar tin. Now dip a wisp of tow into the chloride of zinc, then into the powdered sal ammoniac, of which take up a good quantity, and rub well all over the inside, not missing one single spot. This must be done directly after you have finished the scouring. If it stands it will oxidise and the job be spoilt. Put the saucers on the fire till hot enough to melt the tin, brushing the end of the tin over the heated part till melted. Run down about half the bar, rub with the flattened end of the iron bar, rub the tin well over the surface, taking care not to heat too large a surface at once, nor to let it get too hot, which you will see by the tin getting discoloured, when some dry powdered sal ammoniac must be thrown in. Having in this way gone all over it, wipe lightly with a wisp of tow made sufficiently warm that the tin does not stick to it. When cold, scour well with sand and tow, and give it a thorough rinsing with water. This will, perhaps, serve "Pot's" requirement.

"Head of the House" asks if I can give the "north country" recipe for curing hams with beer; "P. V. S." wants to cure according to the "Westmorland" sweet ham recipe; and "T. C." wants either a "Yorkshire" or "Cumberland" recipe. This, I think, most likely to meet all inquirers. The day before you put the ham in a pickle, rub it well with salt, and when it is going into the pickle drain the brine well away from it. To make the pickle, take 3 lb. of common salt, 3 lb. of coarse sugar, 1 lb. of bay salt, and 3 quarts of strong beer; put these into a saucers and boil for a quarter of an hour; pour over the ham, which should remain in the pickle for 1 month, during which time it is to be rubbed and turned every day, but never taken out of the pickling pan. After the pickling month is ended, let it be smoked for 1 month.

"Can you tell me what chemicals to use and how to apply them when brazing iron and steel together without using heat?" asks "Jas. G. R." and "G. A." requests a recipe for brazing the 2 metals. To do this without heat, take 4 oz. of fluoric acid, 2 oz. of brass filings, and 1 oz. of steel filings. Put the filings of both metals into fluoric acid, and touch each part of the work to be united with the mixture; then put them together. You must be careful how you use the fluoric acid. It should be put in an earthen vessel, and is not a substance to trifle with.

"Punch" can make a hasty pudding in this way. Into a perfectly clean quart steamer put 1 pint of milk, with 5 or 6 bay leaves. Set it on a nice clear fire to boil, having ready close beside you a basin of flour. As soon as the milk boils take out the bay leaves, which may be lightly stitched together so as to be picked out at once with a fork. In your left hand take some flour, letting it fall lightly into the milk, which must be kept boiling fast the whole time; stir without a moment's intermission, adding flour lightly as above, until it is about the consistency of porridge; allow it to boil a few minutes longer, but stirring still all the time. Then turn it out on a hot dish, stick it all over with pieces of butter, sprinkle moist sugar over it, and grate a little nutmeg over it; the butter and sugar should be used with a liberal hand; they will melt and mingle together, running all over and round the pudding as a sauce. Very likely you may not succeed at your first attempt. Nothing but practice can teach how to sprinkle in the flour; this is the great difficulty to the inexperienced. Nothing but the lightest hand in the sprinkling will save it from lumps, and that means ruin to the dish, as, if the four lumps, it will be uncooked.

I am asked by "Mona," "Mother Goose," and "R. V." how to prepare the feathers of geese, ducks, and general poultry for making into beds, pillows, &c. Of course, quill feathers are not to go in unless the feather part is stripped off from the quills carefully. A lime mixture is then to be made to get rid of the natural oil, which, left in, is what causes, no doubt, "the filthy condition and smell." "R. V." found after "a year or two" in a feather bed she made with no other preparation than "beating the feathers to get out the dust." To every gallon of water add 1 lb. of quicklime, and stir up well for several minutes. When thoroughly worked through the water, let it stand till the undissolved lime has fallen to the bottom, then pour off the clear liquor for use. Put the feathers into a clean tub, and pour the clear lime water over them, and continue stirring up the feathers for some time, so that the liquor may penetrate well through them. When the stirring is over, all will have sunk to the bottom. There should be at least 3 inches depth of lime water above the feathers. Let them remain so for 3 days,

then take them out and drain them through a sieve or coarse canvas stretched out. After this put them in clean water, wash and rinse them well, then spread them to dry on cabbage nets or other convenient open material that will allow plenty of light and air to get at them. As soon as thoroughly dry, they should be well beaten in mass to get off the sort of white dust that will be found clinging to them. After this they are ready.

VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

A most successful concert was given at the Alexander Hotel, Clapham, last week by the members of No. 4 Company of the 1st London Artillery, together with the distribution of prizes won last season. The chair was taken by Capt. E. H. Vagg, supported by Maj. Tyler, Capt. Hummel, and several other officers. The programme was a great success, and it was impossible to find even standing room. An excellent programme was given, among others contributing to the evening's amusement being Capt. Hummel, W. F. Hamilton, Corp. Miller, and Gunner Bayley. The distribution of prizes followed, the first to be given to the 1st Company, the 2nd to the 2nd Company, at Loughborough Junction, by Capt. North's detachment; the 40-pounder shift at Willesden, by Sgt.-maj. Connell's detachment; the first prize for attendance by Corp. Price, the second by Gunner Rhodes, and the third by Corp. Miller. A feature of the evening was the presentation of a testimonial and time-piece to the chairman of the committee of the London Artillery, Capt. George, the Queen's Westminster, and the Civil Service Rifles.

The delegates of the Metropolitan Volunteer School of Arms met on Tuesday for a dinner at the London Scottish headquarters. Col. Villiers, 1st Surrey Rifles, was elected president, and Sgt.-maj. Clark, 12th Middlesex, treasurer and secretary, and the accounts, which showed a balance of £11 to the good, were duly passed. Col. Villiers, having drawn attention to a few alterations in the Royal Military Tournament, proposed that the following year the competitions will be held on April 15, 16, and 17, at the drill halls of the Victoria and St. George's, the Queen's Westminster, and the Civil Service Rifles.

The report of the Middlesex Rifle Association presented to the members on Friday, the 7th, by the secretary, Mr. Clement-Smith, gives evidence that the association have seen the last of their many annual deficits, and that a brighter prospect might be expected. A general audience was given to the members of the association appears successful. The retirement of Lord Waldegrave from the council was received with great regret. Lieut. Varley, H.A.C., and Sgt.-maj. King, Post Office Rifles, are new members elected on the council in place of Lord Waldegrave and Pte. J. Kent, H.A.C.

Last Thursday evening the 2nd London Rifles held a competition at their headquarters for the 6 medals offered by the School of Arms for parallel bar, vanishing horse, the horizontal bar, the 120-lb. weight, and the 100-lb. weight. The judges were Corp. Clark (2nd Grenadiers) and Corp. Davis (2nd Coldstream Guards). The drill and work of the competitors was most creditable to the instructor, Mr. A. E. Robertson, late R.A. The winners were Pte. Riches, 102d; Pte. Robertson, 100th; Pte. Davis, 120-lb. weight; H.A.C. and Corp. Poole. The dumb-bell medals were secured by Pioneer Andrews and Pte. Thomas.

It is greatly to our credit that whenever the affairs of the school are mentioned together it always receives an equal interest in Volunteering. Touching the conduct of officers, I notice that the returns for the month of January show that the appointments outnumber the retirements by 18, and, taking the first 3 months of the official year, the loss is only 19 against 41 in 1894 and 47 in 1893 for a like period.

It is announced that the National Artillery Association meeting has been arranged to take place at Shoburness from the 1st to the 8th of August, and that the council have also arranged for a series of lectures at the Royal Artillery College. The 1st lecture will be given by the 1st Artillery batteries of position by Capt. F. E. Cooper, R.A., on the 24th inst., and the second on the 9th of March by Capt. F. M. Lowe, R.A., on Coast Defence Artillery. Maj. Van Stow, the secretary, notifies that the annual general meeting will take place in the theatre of the R.U.S. Institute at 3 o'clock, on the 24th of March.

ELMAZ.

CHARGE AGAINST MADAME BESSON DISMISSED.

Madame Besson was again charged at Clerkenwell this week with stealing a number of bonds and share certificates valued at over £25,000, the property of her husband. Defendant for the prosecution said it was only after civil proceedings appeared futile M. Besson resorted to criminal proceedings. The case accordingly was withdrawn, defendant's counsel declaring that Madame Besson should never have been arrested. —In connection with this, a Spanish paper states this week that Antonio Macias, a Spaniard, who was on terms of the closest friendship with Madame Besson, had committed suicide at Seville.

YESDAY'S MAIL NEWS.

(From "Lloyd's List.") BROW, Head, Feb. 14.—The Botham (presumed) from Liverpool for Boston, arrived at 1.30 p.m. The Botham left New York on Saturday with mails and passengers, passed at 10.5 p.m. for Queenstown and Liverpool. DEAL, Feb. 15.—The Martello, from New York for Hull, passed at 8.30 a.m. GLASGOW, Feb. 14.—The Sarmatian, for Boston, left here. GLENCOCK, Feb. 15.—The Hispania, for Bombay via Liverpool, left. HERST CASTLE, Feb. 15.—The Thame, from Brazil and River Plate via Cherbourg, with mails, passengers, and cargo for Southampton, passed at 3.35 p.m. LIVERPOOL, Feb. 14.—The Cevic, from New York, arrived. The Cambroman, from Boston and Grangemouth, from Para, arrived. MALTA, Feb. 15.—The Canton, from Antwerp and London for Yokohama, arrived. MANCHESTER, Feb. 14.—The Aston Hall, from Bombay, left. NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—The Ludgate Hill, from London, arrived at 11.45 p.m. The Gulf of Akaba, via West Indies, arrived. OLD HEAD OF KINSALE, Feb. 15.—The Bovic, from Liverpool for New York, passed at 7.40 a.m. PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14.—The Grecian, from Glasgow, arrived. PORTLAW POINT, Feb. 14.—The Hindoo, from London for New York, passed at 8.45 a.m. SCILLY, Feb. 15.—The Manitoba, London for New York, passed at 8.45 a.m. SEAS CANAL, Feb. 15.—The Djemah, Marseilles for Mauritius, and the Port Said, The Czar, from Alexandria. The Logician, from Calcutta for London, arrived at 11.30 a.m. The Rafford Hall, Kurrachee for Marseilles and Liverpool, arrived at 2 p.m. LATEST SHIPPING NEWS.

(From "Lloyd's List.") SNAPE, Hartlepool, to the Cunard House, up to 4 p.m. YESTERDAY.

Challenge (a), Dunkirk, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (b), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (c), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (d), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (e), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (f), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (g), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (h), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (i), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (j), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (k), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (l), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (m), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (n), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (o), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (p), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (q), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (r), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (s), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (t), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (u), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (v), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (w), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (x), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (y), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (z), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (aa), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (bb), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (cc), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (dd), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (ee), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. SNAPE, (ff), Hartlepool, 4 p.m. 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THE THEATRES.

DALY'S.

CARL ROSA OPERA.

In music, as in poetry, to return to a really fine work is always a delightful experience, for the re-hearing, like the re-reading, reveals fresh beauties and new delicacies which appear with all the charm of complete novelty. This fact was strikingly illustrated by the performance of that most successful of modern musical productions, *Humperdinck's* engaging fairy opera, "Hansel and Gretel," with which the Carl Rosa Company, who first brought it to a hearing in this country, at Daly's Theatre last Boxing Day twelve-month, have now enabled us to renew acquaintance under conditions more favourable than its first production. In some quarters surprise has been expressed at the unexampled popularity of the work, which ran uninterruptedly for something like three months, just for all the world as if it had been one of those weak and musically inane medleys which have too long reigned undepicted on the light operatic stage! We predicted on a first hearing that "Hansel and Gretel" would be popular because of its appeal to a double constituency—to the musicians who would revel in its masterly orchestration and its melodic invention and adaptation, and to the children who would delight in the treatment of the pretty and fanciful story of the brother and sister entrapped by a child-eating Witch. From the first the appeal to the youngsters was complete by reason of the clever and engaging embodiment of Hansel and Gretel presented by Miss Marie Elise and Miss Jeanne Douste, while those who were more concerned with the composer than the librettist at once appreciated the master-hand in the music, and acclaimed Humperdinck as the most felicitous follower of the Wagnerian school, they were as yet unaware of the full worth of the musician's share in the scheme. It was pretty generally asserted that the work was over-scored, that the elaborate orchestration made too pretentious a setting for the fairy tale, but now that the opera has been performed under the control of a fresh conductor, and since by vigorous suppression Herr Eckhold has succeeded in keeping his instrumentalists within the limits intended by the composer, the orchestration is proved to be a perfectly judicious setting, and its humours touch, its splendid colouring, its wonderful charm and delicacy are revealed to an astonishing degree. This was the most noteworthy feature of the performance, but the singers were also excellent, particularly Miss Minnie Hunt as Gretel, her fresh young voice being especially suitable to the rôle of the little rustic maiden. Miss Frances Graham, too, was on the whole an acceptable Hansel, and if the youngsters did not fight over the gingerbread with quite convincing earnestness their grimaces of enjoyment in the eating of it were excellent, and when they had pushed the Witch into the oven intended for their own warming they pelted each other with orange-peel and generally behaved like a couple of unaffected children. Miss Edith Miller, the only one of the original cast, repeated her intelligent performance as the Witch, and Mr. W. Paul sang fairly well the music for the father in Act I., although rather missing the effect of intoxication, which Mr. Charles Copland used to present with such realism. One cannot speak with authority as to the fitting light in which angels should be enveloped, but we certainly think that the garish illumination spoiled an otherwise fine spectacle, of which the centre is furnished by the sleeping children in the forest.

"Pagliacci" and "Cavalleria Rusticana," two other works of the modern school, now always seem to run together. The performance of the former with Mr. Hedmont and Miss Esty in the principle rôles was highly creditable and would have been much more pleasing could the prompter, who was hard at it the whole time, have somewhat moderated his voice. Surely the audience does not want to hear every cue given to uncertain artists. It would not be fair to criticise the rendering too severely; suffice it to say that Leoncavallo's dramatic opera needs the closest playing to make it effective, and that the company at Daly's did not always work together with precision. Miss Esty made her first appearance as Nedda, and while she sang well there was a restraint about her acting which only familiarity with the part can remove. Mr. Hedmont's Canio was rather melodramatic, but on the whole good, and Mr. Goff was fair as Tonio. In Mascagni's popular work Madame Ella Russell exerted herself to the utmost as Santuzza, acting with much power and singing with effect. Mr. Barton McGuckin was Turridi, and in the scenes with his rejected lover displayed such stage violence as to make us fear for the arms and wrists of poor Santuzza. Nothing, if not vehement, Mr. McGuckin sang with explosive energy, as well as with a nasal quality of tone, anything but pleasant. Also was undertaken by Mr. Denis O'Sullivan, who has a good style and a serviceable baritone voice, of which at present he does not seem to make full use. Miss Hunt sang sweetly as Lola, and Madame Amadi was Lucia. Both operas were conducted by Mr. Jacquinot, and a crowded audience attended. It is to be hoped that the brief season now ended has been sufficiently successful to induce the company to pay another visit to the metropolis at no distant date.

AVENUE.

It is not to be suggested that "The New Barmaid" is either a musical play, as the programme has it, or a musical vaudeville or an opera, the choice of terms given in the libretto; it is just one of those pieces best described as a medley, a class of entertainment which has had a long vogue and does not yet seem to have outstayed its welcome. This latest addition, although by no means a brilliant production, except in the dressing and mounting generally, certainly reaches a very fair level of excellence, and where Messrs. Bowyer and Sprange fall short in the book, Mr. John Crook, a light composer of tried ability, makes up in the music, while mere mention of the fact that Miss Lottie Collins, Mr. Dallas, and Mr. J. L. Shine participate in the rendering is a sufficient guarantee that the performance lacks nothing in spiritiveness and humour. One should hardly approach the consideration of such a musical medley in any hypercritical spirit, the public for the present seem to enjoy this form of amusement more than comic opera or the old opera bouffe at the Avenue. Whether they get fair value for money, and if, as has been suggested, the surroundings of the New Barmaid are hopelessly vulgar in statement (in no sense justified) her advent at the West-end was certainly boisterously acclaimed by a crowded audience, which, doubtless, did not find the new piece much below the level, artistic or otherwise, of similar productions elsewhere. Of course, as usual, the story is not of much consequence. It is sufficient that certain situations serve to introduce the different characters with enough plausibility to account for topical song, love ballad, dance, or whatever is required, and we are first introduced to the interior of the Owl's Club, where what are known as "Johnnies," masques and waiters, appear in evening dress and plush-coloured liveries. In neatly written choruses they set the ball a-rolling, and it is soon apparent that Brenda Louth, the old barmaid, is giving place to the new, Brenda (Miss M. Hunt) being the wife of the head waiter (Mr. Shine), and a scheming sif who possesses compromising letters from Capt.

TERRY'S.
In "Jedbury, Junr.," a light comedy in 3 acts, introduced to the public on the re-opening of Terry's last Friday evening, Mr. Fred. Kerr has been both lucky and wise enough to light upon a comedy of the pure and sympathetic tone and tendency of "Sweet Lavender" and—harking back still further of "The Two Roses." The kindly story plays upon the feelings of the audience in its lighter vein with a pleasing genial humour, through which, in the minor key, runs a pensive train of tender sentiment. Freshly retold by the American authoress, Madeleine Lute-Clyde Ryley, it is the old, old story of love with its hopeful April spring-

Lovely (Mr. Brockbank) and the new barmaid (Miss Delaporte), being a highly proper miss, for whom the said Captain has long entertained a highly proper passion. Having been duly installed by the boys, to whom she sings her "Call to the Bar," Ethel Joy is initiated into the mysteries of her office by the proprietor, a part played by Mr. E. Darnall, who presents a delightfully finished piece of acting. Amongst the ladies visiting the club is a lady journalist, impersonated by Miss Lottie Collins, who gowned in crimson silk, is the life and soul of the company. She tells of her experi-

ence, and of a couple "Married on a bicycle" in some amusing verses enhanced by the singer's vivacious imitation of wheeling. Another of her songs, entitled "The Lady Journalist," runs:—
Since every one to write a book most anxious seems to be,
Just follow my instructions to gain fame and l.o.l.
You use a metal Kodak and minutely photograph
Every section of Society—its morale and its chaff!
Terribly analytical, nor ever be afraid
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With dashes and asterisks where the situation's warm.
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THE TRANSVAAL.

DR. JAMESON AT MALTA.
PRESIDENT KRUGER'S VISIT.THE JOHANNESBURG PRISONERS.
The hired transport Victoria with Dr. Jameson and his fellow prisoners on board, arrived at Malta early yesterday morning from South Africa. She resumed her voyage for England later in the day. Loud cheers were raised as the vessel entered the harbour. Only officers on special duty were allowed to visit her. Strict orders have been issued that Dr. Jameson is not to be allowed to make any statement whatsoever to any one, except to his solicitor and counsel, on his arrival in this country. Every opportunity will be given him to do this, but he is not to be allowed to hold any communication with others until he is brought before a police magistrate in London.

PRESIDENT KRUGER INTERVIEWED.

"South Africa" has received the following telegram from its special commissioner, dated Johannesburg, Feb. 12:—"I have had a long and most interesting interview with President Kruger, in the course of which he stated that it was still his intention to grant reforms and to redress the grievances of the Uitlanders. Referring to the suggestions that had been made to him by Mr. Chamberlain during the progress of the recent negotiations, he remarked that he still considered that they were unwarranted, as they amounted to a meddling with the control of the country wholly contrary to the Convention, and quite unexpected by him. He would, however, give a friendly reply. In answer to a question whether he would accept a partnership Parliament, one-third of the members of which should be elected from the best Uitlanders and two-thirds from the best Boers, President Kruger referred the commission to the law of last year, and pointed out that by this he had given votes to 2,000 people. This year he considered that he would probably be able to do the same for 7,000, and so he would go on. He was particularly careful to point out that he only considered the people who were true to him, and that quite irrespective of nationality, while those who were not true to him put altogether on one side. Referring to the recent action taken by Dr. Jameson, he stated his firm belief that it was only a small number of agitators who had utilised their grievances to bring this body of men from outside. He further stated that he was perfectly satisfied that the bulk of the people of Johannesburg were in no way associated with the movement, and that the town would not suffer in consequence. At the conclusion of the interview President Kruger announced that he had accepted Mr. Chamberlain's invitation to proceed to England, and that when matters had been satisfactorily arranged with the Imperial Government, he would call a special meeting of the Volksraad, in order to obtain its consent to his departure on his mission."

STRANGE STATEMENT FROM CANADA.

Mr. D. MacLaren, a partner of Mr. A. L. Lingham, one of the Johannesburg prisoners, left Ottawa for London to see Mr. Chamberlain on Mr. Lingham's behalf. He claims that he has proof that Mr. Lingham's arrest was the result of a conspiracy to rob him of extensive railway concessions and other valuable property.

ONLY A MIRACLE CAN Avert HOSTILITIES.
The "National Advertiser," in an article on President Kruger's despatch, says that the reply makes the situation more critical, and that only a miracle can now avert the outbreak of hostilities between Great Britain and the Transvaal. All earnestly hope, says the journal, "that such a calamity may be avoided, but President Kruger has pushed the situation to the very verge of the precipice." The "Advertiser" further remarks that the Hollander element is making desperate endeavours to prevent President Kruger from going to England.UITLANDERS WANT FAIR PLAY.
The "Cape Argus" severely criticises the manner in which President Kruger has received Mr. Chamberlain's invitation, and regards his attitude as quite unwarrentable. "Whatever President Kruger's final response may be," that journal continues, "it is certain that there must be great changes in the administration across the Vaal River. The agitation of the Uitlanders has not been stayed by the municipal reforms now proposed, still less stamped out by the new Press Law. The Uitlanders want fair play and good republican government in the place of the hideous anomalies which come of the Hollander-Boer alliance."BOER OUTRAGES DENIED.
A telegram from Cape Town states that Sir G. J. Sprigge, Mr. J. Hoitmyer, Mr. J. Merriman, Mr. W. P. Schreiner, Mr. J. W. Sauer, Sir J. Siewright, Sir T. Upington, Mr. T. E. Water, Mr. David Graaff, and other prominent persons have signed the following declaration for publication in London:—"The telegrams sent to the London papers giving accounts of outrages perpetrated by Boers on British subjects are regarded here as mischievous fictions, and are deplored by all Africans as calculated further to embitter race feeling, and to retard a peaceful settlement."MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S DESPATCH.
The "Staats Courant," the official organ of the Transvaal Government, on Wednesday afternoon published a despatch signed C. Van Boeschoten, Acting State Secretary, of which the following is a translation. It is addressed to Sir Jacobus De Wet, the British Agent in Pretoria:—"I am instructed to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated Feb. 8, enclosing copy of a telegram received by you from the High Commissioner, containing a copy of a telegram to his Excellency from the Secretary of State. The telegram contains an abridged summary of a despatch from the Secretary of State to his Excellency, bearing on occurrences which have recently taken place in the South African Republic. In the above-mentioned telegram the Secretary has published in the 'London Gazette' the State President will keep an open mind on this subject till the despatch shall be placed in his hands. However glad the State President might be to accede to the request, it has been by anticipation made impossible to him by the publication before-hand of the above-mentioned despatch in London. The Government."WHILE AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THE DESPATCH.
of her Majesty's Government, feels itself compelled even at this juncture to observe that it considers it undesirable and inadvisable to give publicity before-hand to the position which the British Cabinet considers itself entitled to adopt. The position of affairs has, in the opinion of the Government, been rendered very difficult, and the Government is compelled not only to remark that it can suffer no interference or intermission (Dutch intermission), however well intentioned, in regard to internal affairs, of which mention is made in the above-mentioned telegram of the Secretary of State, but is further forced to make public this letter through the medium of the "Staats Courant." The efforts thus far employed by the Government to obtain the ultimate establishment of a good understanding between the Republic and England in a moderate and peaceful manner will, in its opinion, be involved in great difficulty, to the great danger of the peace and order, not only of the Republic, but of the whole of South Africa, by again

exciting and disturbing the minds of the inhabitants."

MR. RHODES' DEPARTURE.
Mr. Rhodes left London on Monday for the Continent, and will travel direct to Salisbury and Bulawayo by the Beira Railway route. Mr. Rhodes desires to supervise the commencement of his plans for the extension of the Beira Railway to Mashonaland and the development of Rhodesia. After having put things in working order, he will return to England in time to be present at the trial of Dr. Jameson, should his presence be required as a witness. It is anticipated that the trial cannot take place before June next. With reference to a statement published on Thursday we are informed that there is no foundation for the statement that Mr. Rhodes's sudden departure from England was due to an intention on the part of the ex-Premier of the Cape to hold some communication with Dr. Jameson. It is stated that Mr. Rhodes entertained no such idea. A report is current that Insp. Frost of Scotland Yard has been despatched with a warrant for the arrest of Dr. Jameson on board the Victoria, the vessel by which he is coming home.

THE PRETORIA TRIALS.

The trial of the Johannesburg Reform Committee was continued at Pretoria on Monday. The evidence turned to a great extent upon the administration of the relief fund, various officials of the Standard Bank, in which the money was deposited, being closely interrogated as to the supposed objects of the fund, and the persons authorised to draw upon it. The relations of the relief fund and the development syndicate were also investigated. Mr. Schumacher, who stated that he had acted without salary for the development syndicate, admitted that he had destroyed the leaves of the note-book in which he kept an account of the transactions, explaining that the directors were then in gaol, and that he considered the notes in question had served their purpose. Additional evidence was given as to the revolver and ammunition discovered in the safe intercepted by the Customs officers at Johannesburg, and a cyclist named Jacob Celliers narrated how he had delivered out-side Krugersdorp a despatch from Col. Rhodes to Dr. Jameson, and how he had lost the reply on being taken prisoner by the burghers. Mr. Schumacher was fined £20 for refusing to answer a question.

BORE ALLEGATIONS BREAKING DOWN.

On Tuesday the proceedings during the latter part of the sitting were taken up with the examination of witnesses regarding the secret setting up of the Reform Committee's proclamation, and the evidence of officers and men of the various forces organised in Johannesburg after the withdrawal of the Government police. An officer of Bettington's Horse gave evidence that when the forces went out to meet Dr. Jameson they had orders, if they met the Boers, not to fire on them under any circumstances. The officers of the Australian, Scottish, Irish, and other volunteer brigades gave evidence as to the organisation and objects of these forces. It was stated in every instance that the corps were only got together for the protection of life and property. The inquiry has been adjourned sine die.

THE AUTHORS OF THE TROUBLE.

The Berlin correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" says:—"The answer of Mr. Rhodes given in the English Blue Book, wherein he denies all previous knowledge of Jameson's raid, has created a profound impression here. It can hardly be anticipated that he will be believed by the Anglophobe German press, but I am now in a position to state positively that leading persons in this capital are at present in possession of convincing evidence that the raid was actually instigated outside the walls of the Chartered Co., and that only a miracle can now avert the outbreak of hostilities between Great Britain and the Transvaal. All earnestly hope, says the journal, "that such a calamity may be avoided, but President Kruger has pushed the situation to the very verge of the precipice." The "Advertiser" further remarks that the Hollander element is making desperate endeavours to prevent President Kruger from going to England.

UITLANDERS WANT FAIR PLAY.

The "Cape Argus" severely criticises the manner in which President Kruger has received Mr. Chamberlain's invitation, and regards his attitude as quite unwarrentable. "Whatever President Kruger's final response may be," that journal continues, "it is certain that there must be great changes in the administration across the Vaal River. The agitation of the Uitlanders has not been stayed by the municipal reforms now proposed, still less stamped out by the new Press Law. The Uitlanders want fair play and good republican government in the place of the hideous anomalies which come of the Hollander-Boer alliance."

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LARRY LYNX'S LATEST.

We saw some fine sport at Sandown Park on Friday—in fact, the race of the week was the Prince of Wales's Steeplechase at that resort. Lord William did not win, but his horse, "Larry Lynx," was a splendid Grand National winner. Waterford gave a splendid Grand National performance in which the young horse simply shone resplendent. As for Horison, who was performing on his favourite course, he behaved very badly. He blundered at his jumps, and his misfortunes reached a climax when he fell "fairly" at the ditch fence below the stand, the result of which was that he was unable to get up again. He can have no earthly chance of winning the "Derby of the Chase." Waterford was a good horse, but he had no luck in with Neptune, and if this young horse can win as easily as possible with the Grand National, for the benefit of the beef handicapped horse in the race, Lady Ellen II., then the race will be won. Biscay must now rely on Wild Man from Horsoe, King Charles, and Victor, of whom the latter should give a public test of his abilities at Manchester on Monday. Neptune, who has just won his field on Friday in workmanlike style, will be a good horse to do this, but he is not to be allowed to hold any communication with Dr. Jameson. It is stated that Mr. Rhodes entertained no such idea. A report is current that Insp. Frost of Scotland Yard has been despatched with a warrant for the arrest of Dr. Jameson on board the Victoria, the vessel by which he is coming home.

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YESTERDAY'S
LAW AND POLICE.

Divorce Court.

HACKETT V. HACKETT AND LECHMER. Husband's petition, a solicitor's clerk. Grounds, misconduct of his wife, Ada, music hall artist, whose professional name is Ada Layton. The parties were married in September, 1885, and after a time she joined the musical profession. She became one of the quartette company known as the "Sons of Layton." Respondent went to America, and on her return to England she performed at various music halls in the provinces, where, it appeared, that she made the acquaintance of co-respondent, with whom she was discovered living at Farborough as his wife. Decree nisi, but without costs, as it had not been shown the co-respondent knew respondent to be a married woman.

DRAPER'S PETITION.

ROBB V. ROBB, DICKINSON, AND JOHNSON. Husband's petition, a paper of Burkenhead, Grounds, misconduct with James Dickinson and Thomas of both Sutton-on-Trent, which he denied. Mr. Inverwick, Q.C., and Mr. R. W. Turner appeared for the petitioner; Mr. Bayford, Q.C., and Mr. Powles for the respondents. The co-respondents were not represented by counsel.—The marriage took place in September, 1874, at Tranmere, and Mr. and Mrs. Robb afterwards lived together in Tranmere. There was 1 child. In 1886 a deed of separation was executed between them, stated to have been drawn up in a great measure by reason of the wife's intemperate habits. In 1888 they resumed co-habitation, and lived together until 1891, when there was a deed of separation, petitioner allowing his wife £2 a week. Subsequently she went to live at Sutton-on-Trent, at the house of Mr. Dickinson, one of the co-respondents.—Mrs. Elizabeth Dickinson, wife of one of the co-respondents, gave evidence as to Mrs. Robb being with Johnson. On one occasion respondent was with her husband, and witness gave her "a good hiding." (Laughter.) Mrs. Robb then went to her bed-room and barricaded the door. When she again saw her she gave her "another hiding" (renewed laughter)—telling her she must not leave the house. Mrs. Robb said if her husband knew of what had been done he would stop her allowance. She went down on her hands and knees and entreated witness not to say anything about it. She pleaded so hard that witness allowed her to remain in the house. Two days later she again found them together, and Mrs. Robb had to leave the house.—Jabez Dickinson, husband of last witness, was then called. He was told by the learned judge that he was not bound to give evidence unless he liked. Having consulted his solicitor, he said he would rather not give evidence, after which he left the box.—Other witnesses having been called in support of the petitioner's case, Mrs. Eliza Robb, respondent, was examined. She gave an emphatic denial to the charge of misconduct with either of co-respondents, disjoined.

SURVEYOR'S PETITION.

PARKER V. PARKER AND LAWRENCE. The hearing of this petition, particulars of which appear on page 13, was concluded yesterday. His lordship, having looked through some letters, came to the conclusion that there had been condonation, and dismissed the petition with costs.

A BRUTE.

INWARDS V. INWARDS. Wife's petition, who resides at Albany-st., Regent's Park. Grounds, cruelty and misconduct.—Petitioner, let me vary our act of cruelty. He had strangled her face, had broken her body, had nearly strangled her, and had tried to kill her with a carving knife. He also used to make her sit still in a chair, darning her to move, saying he would kill her if she moved. She had had to sit motionless for 2 and 3 hours at a time.—Evidence was given to prove that respondent had taken a house at Neasden, and that he was living there with his former book-keeper as his wife.—Decree nisi.

Mr. P. P. Poletach, the co-respondent in the second case, in the divorce case, who was condemned to £5,000 damages, and ordered to pay within a fortnight, has filed his petition in the Manchester Bankruptcy Court, his liabilities being chiefly the damages and costs in the divorce proceedings.

Queen's Bench Division.

TRAM PASSENGERS AND THEIR TICKETS. Lord Justices Lindley and Kay, sitting as a Divisional Court, sat engaged in hearing a point of considerable importance affecting passengers on trams.

The action was that of Lowe v. Volk, and came before the court on a case stated by the magistrate at South-Western Police Court. The matter arose out of a summons taken out by the London Tramway Co., and raised the question as to whether the holder of a tram ticket was bound by the by-laws of the company to show the same when asked to do so by a servant of the company. Defendant, upon being asked by an inspector to show his ticket, replied that he had a ticket, which he refused to show, but he would give the number of the ticket. The magistrate held that defendant, having a ticket, had no intention to defraud, and dismissed the summons. It was further held by the magistrate that defendant should have been given the alternative of paying his fare, and that that was not the alternative the by-law was void.—After long arguments, their lordships allowed the appeal upon the interpretation of the company's by-laws, and sent the case back to the magistrate for his opinion.

BARGE ACCIDENT.

ALLEGED POST OFFICE ROBBERIES. William F. Trash, 26, second-class sorter in the North-Western District Post Office, was charged with robbery on a near-shore barge, one of a tier of four which were moored up and down stream. This was at Jamaica Wharf, Upper Ground-st., Blackfriars. A barge of defendant's came along the stream, and the man in charge of it took a turn of the rope upon the outer barge of the tier. This, it was said, pulled the barge of the tier to some extent out into the stream, and caused a plank along with the outer tier to be carried to it. It fell upon the head of plaintiff as he was standing upon the floor of his barge, and as he weighed 18st., he was very seriously hurt. He was in hospital for a month with his head and neck in plaster of paris splints; another month he was in a lunatic asylum. His arms and legs were still very weak, as was also the sight of his left eye, and his memory was bad. It was feared that he would never again be able to carry a heavy weight upon his back. For these injuries he now claimed compensation.—The principal question was whether the man in charge of defendant's barge when he took a turn with the rope upon the outer barge of the tier, shot out according to custom, on the river, to the tier at water level, hard. Upon this and also upon various other matters there was a good deal of contradictory evidence.—The jury were unable to agree, and were in the end discharged without giving any verdict.

Chancery Division.

ALLEGED UNDERSELLING. SOLICITOR CHARGED WITH FRAUD. Justice Homer had before him the case of the Edison-Swan United Electric Light Co., Ltd., v. Williamson and Joseph, in which plaintiff charged on remand with forging and uttering a power of attorney for the sum of £100. Mr. Lowe prosecuted on behalf of the Queen's Bench; Mr. Rowe defended.—Evidence showed that the accused was formerly engaged in the office of a Mr. J. Camden Hawwood, solicitor, Dartford, and had the management of the Wallis Trust, which consisted of £500 invested in Consols. He was also a deputy clerk to the magistrates at Dartford, and a clerk to the Bexley Urban District Council. On the 27th ult. prisoner met a stockbroker in Throgmorton-st., who, at his request, obtained a power of attorney from the Bank of England, which was ultimately executed and deposited at the Bank. The document purports to bear the signatures of the trustee and the Bank authority, and in making inquiries that they had been forged over the contents of the document about the floor, P.C. Haggard deposed that about 3 a.m. he saw a light in the church, looked through one of the vestry windows, and saw the prisoner with a lighted candle. He saw him break open a cupboard, and some drawers, but he could not find out how he had got into the church. He, however, stopped outside, and just after 5 o'clock heard a noise and saw the prisoner running away. After a chase he caught him in the grounds of the Friary. Prisoner, who was wearing the surfaces underneath his overcoat, said, "All right, I'm done; I'll go quietly."—Remanded.

Mansion House.

WILLIAM SWANN, FISHER, 29, solicitor. was charged on remand with forging and uttering a power of attorney for the sum of £100. Mr. Lowe prosecuted on behalf of the Queen's Bench; Mr. Rowe defended.—Evidence showed that the accused was formerly engaged in the office of a Mr. J. Camden Hawwood, solicitor, Dartford, and had the management of the Wallis Trust, which consisted of £500 invested in Consols. He was also a deputy clerk to the magistrates at Dartford, and a clerk to the Bexley Urban District Council. On the 27th ult. prisoner met a stockbroker in Throgmorton-st., who, at his request, obtained a power of attorney from the Bank of England, which was ultimately executed and deposited at the Bank. The document purports to bear the signatures of the trustee and the Bank authority, and in making inquiries that they had been forged over the contents of the document about the floor, P.C. Haggard deposed that about 3 a.m. he saw a light in the church, looked through one of the vestry windows, and saw the prisoner with a lighted candle. He saw him break open a cupboard, and some drawers, but he could not find out how he had got into the church. He, however, stopped outside, and just after 5 o'clock heard a noise and saw the prisoner running away. After a chase he caught him in the grounds of the Friary. Prisoner, who was wearing the surfaces underneath his overcoat, said, "All right, I'm done; I'll go quietly."—Remanded.

Thames.

STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE. Mr. Fitzsimmons, missionary attached to the

brought.—The defence set up was that the partnership was illegal within the Betting Act.—His lordship held that the partnership was a legal one, though at will, and declared it dissolved from Sept. 12, the 12th of August being the date of the original partnership agreement.—Judgment for plaintiff.

STEAM MERRY-GO-ROUNDS.

Justice Stirling heard the case of Spruance v. Dossert.—It was an action brought by plaintiff, 3 in number—Messrs. Spruance, Bell, and Buxton—for an injunction to restrain defendant from using a steam organ or any other instrument in such a way as to occasion nuisance or injury to plaintiff. Plaintiff resides at Thetford Bois, a small village in Essex, on the borders of Epping Forest, which is much frequented by excursionists from the East-end of London. Defendant is a refreshment caterer at Thetford Bois, and previously to June, 1893, had erected a steam organ at Wormwood Scrubs Prison, who were charged with being concerned in feloniously receiving 3 silver kettles and other articles, valued at £100, the proceeds of a burglary, in April last.—Det.-supt. Brown, X Division, spoke to seeing the prisoner Saunders at Notting Dale Station on a minor charge at Sutton-on-Trent, which he occupied a more central position in the village. At Easter, 1893, he recommended to use the organ, and asserted his right to do so, in consequence of which this action was instituted against him.—Mr. Bell gave evidence to the effect that since the organ had been placed in its present position its noise had been a constant source of annoyance to him and his family. While it was being played in the summer his wife could not remain in the back part of the house, and it interfered very much with his use and enjoyment of his garden and tennis-lawn. The repetition of the tunes had such an effect upon him that he could not get rid of them, even after the organ had ceased to play. The organ was played intermittently all day long.—Mr. Hurford, of Epping, said that he had attended the wife of plaintiff in a serious illness, and that the noise of the organ had materially affected her recovery and had a bad effect upon her.—After a number of witnesses had given evidence to the same effect, the case was adjourned.

Middlesex County Sessions
(Before Mr. Loveland-Loveland.)

MURDEROUS ATTACK ON A CONSTABLE.

Wm. Creasy, 42, bricklayer, pleaded guilty to murderously assaulting P.C. Summers.—On Christmas Eve information of some serious assaults was received by the police at Southgate, and several constables were sent to the place, and could not arrest the men complained of as they had barricaded themselves in Creasy's house. The police afterwards were re-inforced, and the men rushed out of the house. Creasy's brother aimed a stone at Summers, and prisoner struck him a heavy blow on the head with a thick knobbed stick, felling him to the ground and rendering him insensible. Summers has been suffering since from concussion of the brain, and was even now unable to go on duty. Other men who came from the house and stoned Summers and the other constables were dealt with by the Enfield magistrates.—Prisoner had been convicted 4 times of assault between 1871 and 1891.—Twelve months' hard labour.

SHOP STEVES.

John Duke, 24; George Barton, 22; and John Marshall, 20, pleaded guilty to stealing a pair of trousers, the goods of Wm. Henry Yone.—The trousers were taken by Duke from outside the shop of the prosecutor at South Tottenham. Against Duke there were 5 summary convictions proved by P.C. 425 G, as well as one of 10 months and one of 3 years' penal servitude. There was nothing known about Barton, but Marshall had been several times convicted.—Duke was sentenced to 12 months' hard labour; Barton to 3; and Marshall to 4 months.

GEORGE DUNN ELLISMORE, 28, clerk, pleaded guilty to obtaining watches, value £22 7s., by false pretences.—The prisoner was engaged as a traveller by Messrs. Juggins, corn-merchants, at Southall, and did very well, but it seemed he mixed with people much better off than himself. He spent in this way money belonging to his employer, but that was passed over and later he was found to have embezzled more money and was then discharged. After this he went to the prosecutor's, and said Mr. Juggins was going to make her husband a birthday present, and she wanted several watches to choose from. Three were given to him, and later 2 of them were found pledged. The other had not been found. He then went to Portsmouth, and was arrested for forgery, and sentenced to 12 months' hard labour. On the expiration of that sentence he was arrested for this—Eight months' hard labour.

THE BOY, THE BICYCLE, AND THE HORSE.

Walther Scott, 19, pleaded guilty to stealing a horse from a man named Schofield at Tottenham.—A lad about 14 had a bicycle which he wanted to exchange for a horse. He saw prisoner with the horse in question, and tried to effect a change. Prisoner did not refuse to show, but wanted money. The boy then sold the bicycle for 3s. 6d. to Scott, and the boy and the boy's horse were arrested.—Mr. Black, who prosecuted, asked that the boy might have the 2s. 4d. found on prisoner. The owner of the horse had got his property. Why should not the boy have his money?—Scott got 6 months' hard labour. The boy got the 2s. 6d., and a warning from Mr. Loveland.

BOW-STREET.

ALLEGED POST OFFICE ROBBERIES. William F. Trash, 26, second-class sorter in the North-Western District Post Office, was charged with robbery on a near-shore barge, one of a tier of four which were moored up and down stream. This was at Jamaica Wharf, Upper Ground-st., Blackfriars. A barge of defendant's came along the stream, and the man in charge of it took a turn of the rope upon the outer barge of the tier. This, it was said, pulled the barge of the tier to some extent out into the stream, and caused a plank along with the outer tier to be carried to it. It fell upon the head of plaintiff as he was standing upon the floor of his barge, and as he weighed 18st., he was very seriously hurt. He was in hospital for a month with his head and neck in plaster of paris splints; another month he was in a lunatic asylum. His arms and legs were still very weak, as was also the sight of his left eye, and his memory was bad. It was feared that he would never again be able to carry a heavy weight upon his back. For these injuries he now claimed compensation.—The principal question was whether the man in charge of defendant's barge when he took a turn with the rope upon the outer barge of the tier, shot out according to custom, on the river, to the tier at water level, hard. Upon this and also upon various other matters there was a good deal of contradictory evidence.—The jury were unable to agree, and were in the end discharged without giving any verdict.

ALLEGED UNDERSELLING. Justice Homer had before him the case of the Edison-Swan United Electric Light Co., Ltd., v. Williamson and Joseph, in which plaintiff charged on remand with forging and uttering a power of attorney for the sum of £100. Mr. Lowe prosecuted on behalf of the Queen's Bench; Mr. Rowe defended.—Evidence showed that the accused was formerly engaged in the office of a Mr. J. Camden Hawwood, solicitor, Dartford, and had the management of the Wallis Trust, which consisted of £500 invested in Consols. He was also a deputy clerk to the magistrates at Dartford, and a clerk to the Bexley Urban District Council. On the 27th ult. prisoner met a stockbroker in Throgmorton-st., who, at his request, obtained a power of attorney from the Bank of England, which was ultimately executed and deposited at the Bank. The document purports to bear the signatures of the trustee and the Bank authority, and in making inquiries that they had been forged over the contents of the document about the floor, P.C. Haggard deposed that about 3 a.m. he saw a light in the church, looked through one of the vestry windows, and saw the prisoner with a lighted candle. He saw him break open a cupboard, and some drawers, but he could not find out how he had got into the church. He, however, stopped outside, and just after 5 o'clock heard a noise and saw the prisoner running away. After a chase he caught him in the grounds of the Friary. Prisoner, who was wearing the surfaces underneath his overcoat, said, "All right, I'm done; I'll go quietly."—Remanded.

WILLIAM SWANN, FISHER, 29, solicitor. was charged on remand with forging and uttering a power of attorney for the sum of £100. Mr. Lowe prosecuted on behalf of the Queen's Bench; Mr. Rowe defended.—Evidence showed that the accused was formerly engaged in the office of a Mr. J. Camden Hawwood, solicitor, Dartford, and had the management of the Wallis Trust, which consisted of £500 invested in Consols. He was also a deputy clerk to the magistrates at Dartford, and a clerk to the Bexley Urban District Council. On the 27th ult. prisoner met a stockbroker in Throgmorton-st., who, at his request, obtained a power of attorney from the Bank of England, which was ultimately executed and deposited at the Bank. The document purports to bear the signatures of the trustee and the Bank authority, and in making inquiries that they had been forged over the contents of the document about the floor, P.C. Haggard deposed that about 3 a.m. he saw a light in the church, looked through one of the vestry windows, and saw the prisoner with a lighted candle. He saw him break open a cupboard, and some drawers, but he could not find out how he had got into the church. He, however, stopped outside, and just after 5 o'clock heard a noise and saw the prisoner running away. After a chase he caught him in the grounds of the Friary. Prisoner, who was wearing the surfaces underneath his overcoat, said, "All right, I'm done; I'll go quietly."—Remanded.

BOOKMAKERS' PARTNERSHIP. Mr. Justice Chitty heard the case of Thwaites v. Cuthbwaite, which was an action claiming an account of an alleged partnership in betting transactions.—Plaintiff, who was a turf commission agent, alleged that in August, 1894, he and defendant entered into partnership as commission agents and bookmakers, plaintiff contributing £50 and receiving one-fourth of the profits. On Sept. 12 of the same year plaintiff wrote to defendant asking for his cheque of £250 to be returned, saying that he would not trouble defendant to reckon the book up. Defendant wrote in reply enclosing a cheque for £250, and stating that he would settle when he squared up. Defendant had offered plaintiff £20, but plaintiff refused to accept this, and the present action was

of Essex-court.—While prosecutor was walking in Dorset-st. prisoner suddenly ran past, and it was alleged snatched away his watch and chain. He was followed some distance by the prosecutor, who lost sight of him through the interference of a confederate. Accused was stopped after a sharp struggle, but he broke away. He was afterwards seized by another witness named Borkett, who threw him down and kept him detained until the police arrived. The property, which the prisoner endeavoured unsuccessfully to pass to a companion, was recovered. Two previous convictions were proved.—Committed for trial.

Marylebone.

THE CHARGE AGAINST A JEWELLER.

Lady Bianche Hozier, Cornwall-st., Baywater, again appeared to prosecute Thomas Redfern, jeweller, Edgware-rd., and James Saunders, 40, now undergoing a long term of imprisonment for using a steam organ or any other instrument in such a way as to occasion nuisance or injury to plaintiff. Plaintiff resides at Thetford Bois, a small village in Essex, on the borders of Epping Forest, which is much frequented by excursionists from the East-end of London. Defendant is a refreshment caterer at Thetford Bois, and previously to June, 1893, had erected a steam organ at Wormwood Scrubs Prison, who were charged with being concerned in feloniously receiving 3 silver kettles and other articles, valued at £100, the proceeds of a burglary, in April last.—Det.-supt. Brown, X Division, spoke to seeing the prisoner Saunders at Notting Dale Station on a minor charge at Sutton-on-Trent, which he occupied a more central position in the village. At Easter, 1893, he recommended to use the organ, and asserted his right to do so, in consequence of which this action was instituted against him.—Mr. Bell gave evidence to the effect that since the organ had been placed in its present position its noise had been a constant source of annoyance to him and his family. While it was being played in the summer his wife could not remain in the back part of the house, and it interfered very much with his use and enjoyment of his garden and tennis-lawn. The repetition of the tunes had such an effect upon him that he could not get rid of them, even after the organ had ceased to play. The organ was played intermittently all day long.—Mr. Hurford, of Epping, said that he had attended the wife of plaintiff in a serious illness, and that the noise of the organ had materially affected her recovery and had a bad effect upon her.—After a number of witnesses had given evidence to the same effect, the case was adjourned.

South-Western.

YOUNG PICKPOCKETS.

Harry Williams, 17, who refused his address, was charged with stealing a purse containing 2s. from Mrs. Curran, residing in Wakehurst-rd., Wandsworth Common. On the 7th inst. prosecutor was walking in St. John's Wood, when the prisoner got behind her, and took the purse from her dress pocket. He was arrested with the purse and money in his possession.—Prisoner, when told the facts of the case, discharged the man and his wife—binding them over—and the missionary is trying to get them a proper home, as well as to start the man with a small ground floor shop for his trade.

CHILDERHOUSE.

Mr. Langham held an inquest respecting the death of John Baptiste, match-seller, 56, Wm. Gresham, 18, who lived with the deceased, now a widow. The deceased was from the Guildhall Police Court charged with causing the death. William Standring deposed that the deceased was formerly an engineer's labourer. On Wednesday evening last he heard some noise down the stairs. Witness Graham was asked whether he was pushed or not.—Graham said he had had something to do with him for about 8 months, and had lived with him 4. They had occupied the same room. On Wednesday night he was sitting in the arm-chair with his feet on the table. This so angered Baptiste that he went to his knees, which broke the chair down. The deceased then jumped up and landed him downstairs. Graham ran out and found the deceased lying at the bottom of the stairs.—Medical evidence went to show that death was due to bodily exertion, accelerated by the fall.—The jury returned a verdict of death from accidental causes, and exonerated Graham.

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"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

Throughout England and Wales there was only one death from small-pox last week. In London last week there were born 1,370 males and 1,286 females. The deaths numbered 1,762—936 males and 826 females.

Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, M.P., has been elected a trustee of the British Museum.

Of the provincial towns the highest rate of mortality last week was at Bolton—26.9 per 1,000.

From July regular fast trains will run between Moscow and Omsk on the W. Siberian Railway.

Mr. W. T. Best, the organist, is reported to be ill at his residence, Broad Green, near Liverpool.

The Prince of Wales will, by command of the Queen, hold a levee at St. James's Palace on March 5.

Viscount Curzon, M.P., has been given the post of Treasurer of her Majesty's Household, in the room of the Duke of Leeds, resigned.

The Hon. W. F. Smith, M.P., will probably succeed Lord Glenesk as chairman of the Committee of London U. Members.

The late Prof. Williamson's collection of preparations of fossil plants has been acquired by the trustees of the British Museum.

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At a public meeting held this week at Ramsgate it was decided to make arrangements for the holding of a yacht race week during July.

The Surrey County Council have refused to accept a resolution in favour of taxing cycles, and declared the proposal to register them practically impossible.

The Navy estimates will provide for increasing the corps of Royal Marines by 500 men. Three hundred will be appointed to the infantry branch and 200 to the artillery division.

Henry Wilson, 66, who has served over 20 years in prison, was committed for trial at Halifax, charged with stealing gold rings valued at £120 from the shop of a local jeweller.

An interesting and successful series of experiments with "the new photography" was given at the rooms of the Royal Photographic Society, Hanover-sq., this week by Mr. C. Swinton.

A great conspiracy is reported to have been discovered in Madagascar. According to a statement telegraphed from Port Louis, 4,000 Horas have made an attack on the French, but have been repulsed with the loss of 3,000 killed.

George Eliot is said to have written "Mid-dlemish" in four months. Some doubt is thrown upon this statement by the fact that she commonly worked slowly, writing with great care and deliberation, and making few erasures after her work was done.

The smallest city in the world is the miniature place known as Stewy City, Alaska, U.S.A., its 3 inhabitants being respectively—mayor, chairman of the Board of Aldermen, and president of the Common Council.

A naval court-martial at Devonport sentenced Frederick Ringer, gunner R.M.A., of the Bellerose, to 12 months' imprisonment and dismissal from the service for unlawfully entering the ward-room of the ship and striking the sentry.

While Mr. Hicks was holding an inquest at Battersby's Coroners' Court one day this week he observed that his poor-box, fixed in the wall, had been tampered with. On examination it was found that the contents had been abstracted.

Mr. C. Button, J.P., chairman of the Hackney Vestry, and for many years chief official shorthand writer in the Probate and Divorce Division of the High Court of Justice, died this week at his residence in Gascoigne-nd., South Hackney, from influenza.

The L.G.B. have decided to sanction the scheme put forward by the Corporation of Richmond and the District Council of Hertford and Elstow for the establishment of a joint isolation hospital on a site covering 94 acres near the Isthworth sewage farm.

In an address to a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute at Whitehall Rooms, Col. Sir G. Clarke advocated an Imperial federation for purposes of defence, the Navy being recognised as the defensive force of the whole Empire, each member contributing in the war best suited to its circumstances.

Among the treasures of The Grove, Watford, the result of the Earl of Clarendon, is the original gilt key of Hyde Park, sent by Queen Anne to Lord Chancellor Clarendon, to give him at all times admission to "the parks of London"—a relic of singular historical interest.

A terrible accident occurred in a quarry at Vaynor, near Metherby Tydyl, this week. Two men were preparing a hole for blasting when a mass of conglomerate fell above them, he was dislodged and buried in it. One man was still alive when extricated, but he is in a very critical state. The other man was dead when recovered.

The following are some of the uses of waste—A lot of old iron is remelted and used up again. Some old iron gets a little cleaning and a coat of paint, and goes forth as new stuff again. Old leather is put to a great many uses. It is used for making glue, and gelatine, and rhoddy leather, and various other purposes.

The Admiralty Court on Tuesday awarded the Liverpool tugs Challenger, Knight of St. George, and Sea King, £350 for salvaging the London ship Main, which, in December last, whilst at anchor in the Mersey during a gale, waiting to be docked, dragged her anchors, and was towed by tugs clear of the shrimping, and afterwards docked by them at Birkenhead.

An example of the cost of the medicinal root ginseng is afforded by a report from the military governor of Kien, in China, stating that he has forwarded for the use of the Emperor by special messenger 8 large and 16 small ginsengs, weighing altogether 9.4 ounces. The total cost is given at £1,000 each, or about £900, being at the rate of about £45 an ounce.

A marble statue of the late Mr. Bright was unveiled in the Central Hall at Westminster this week by the Duke of Devonshire, who, in a short speech, claimed that the majority of his countrymen had given their approval to the opinions which led Mr. Bright to separate himself, with deep pain and sorrow, from the majority of his former political associates, and that Mr. Bright's influence was sorely needed at a time when differences had arisen between the two great English-speaking peoples.

Napoleon's mother was as much of a soldier as her great son. On one occasion, when he wanted his own way, she gave him to understand that the first duty of a soldier was obedience, and that if he wished to be a soldier he must, first of all things, learn to obey. He had, to the end of his life, the highest regard for his mother. At his court she was styled "Madame Mère." Speaking of the influence of the mother on the character of the child, he said, "The future singer and the guard escaped injury."

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New York, it is said, has 49 Jewish synagogues.

It is said that in some parts of Africa there are birds with bills a yard in length.

Aspidic is often present in cretins and imitation Indian maid in poisonous quantities.

Every workman in Japan wears on his cap and on his back an inscription giving his business and his employer's name.

On the few recorded occasions of a battle royal between the lion and the Bengal tiger the lion has come off second best.

In 1843, a Cardinal Beaton caused 4 men to be hanged at Edinburgh upon suspicion that they had eaten a goose upon a Friday.

It is estimated that some 600 tons a year of adulterants have been used with pepper for the last year or two.

In the Friedrichstrasse, Berlin, is a shop which contains a statue in sponge of Mr. Winthorpe, the chief of the Ultramontane party.

Of the 11,000,000 square miles of Africa, only 4,500,000 have not been claimed by some European, and more than half of this area lies within the Desert of Sahara.

Paper is now used for making doors, and can be finished to resemble any kind of wood. There is no shrinking, cracking, or warping.

It has been discovered that a large number of mummies have been fashioned at Alexandria by the best hands of manufacturers of antiquities.

In Turkey the disappearance of the sun at night is accounted for by the periodical retirement of that pious luminary for prayers and religious reflections.

The great bell of St. Sepulchre has been sent to toll at the execution of criminals in the neighbouring gaol of Newgate for nearly 3 centuries.

A boy aged 11 has succeeded in ascending Mont Blanc with a party of guides. He is the youngest climber who has accomplished such afeat.

The S. Australian Government have made an arrangement by which an engine-driver who runs his trains for 2 years without accident will receive a bonus of £10.

It is said that there are now orders ahead in the shops of Paris and London for all the golden hair that can be purchased in the next 5 years.

A paper watch has been exhibited by a Dresden watchmaker. The paper is prepared in such a manner that the watch is said to be as serviceable as those in ordinary use.

We do not see the moon as it is, but as it was a second and a quarter before. Were the moon dispersed into atoms, we should still see it entire and perfect for more than a second.

Oranges are now being shipped from Florida in bulk, the same as potatoes. They are piled about 3 feet high, and the door on which they lie is covered with fine marsh grass.

In spite of the peculiar prejudices of the Indian races, statistics show that vaccination is increasing year by year, and also gradually diminishing the mortality from small-pox.

The Russian photographers have a strange way of punishing those who do not pay their bills. They hang the pictures of the defrauded up at the entrance to their studio.

Paris eats a vast quantity of snails. Every day 90,000lb. are sent to the city from the gardens of Burgundy, Champagne, Provence, and Poitou, where they are specially reared annually for the sake of their skins.

There are thousands of small dog and goat farms scattered over the northern districts of Mongolia and Manchuria, on each of which from 10 to several hundreds of animals are reared annually for the sake of their skins.

In wet weather the peasants of Gaul protect themselves under great hoods made of fine straw, which is held together in a pack over their heads, and descends in layers like a coachman's cap right down to their heels.

The tramways in London consist of nearly 117 miles of line. The principal companies are the North Metropolitan, owning 41 miles; the London, nearly 22 miles; the London Street, just over 13 miles. Five other companies between them have 41 miles.

The commanding officer of the Madras Army has issued orders for men in every company to be instructed in the cutting of palm-tails and the treatment of corns, blisters, &c., with a view to keeping the feet of the troops in the best possible state for marching.

Mr. Langham having resigned the post of coroner for the Liberty of the Savoy, Lord James of Hereford, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, has appointed Mr. Troutbeck, the Westminster coroner, to succeed Mr. Langham in the coronership for that portion of the duchy which is locally within the boundaries of the Westminster district.

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It appears that those whose blindness is not congenital, but whose sight has been lost after the 7th year, retain with more or less vividness the sensation of vision in their dreams. Those who have lost their sight at an earlier age seem to be unable to retain the impression of vision in after years.

A curious sale of skeletons recently took place in Paris. These ghoulish treasures belonged to a French doctor, who devoted his existence to studying distorted human nature, and haunted the hospitals to buy the corpses of deformed persons. Accordingly, he formed a perfect museum of horrors, which his heirs valued at £1,200.

James Bridge, 28, labourer of Loder with Peckham, was charged at Lambeth with assaulting his wife. Prosecutrix, who carried a child in her arms, alleged that she was generally neglected, and asserted that he struck her a blow in the mouth, which knocked 1 of her teeth out. Sir Hopkins ordered prisoner to enter into his own recognisances in £10 to keep the peace for 6 months.

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tradeeman's van, which was passing at the time, was smashed.

The Duke of Connaught will represent the Queen at the Czar's coronation.

The Duke of Westminster has been re-elected president of the Middlesex Rifle Association.

Mr. C. Richardson, originator of the scheme of the Severn Tunnel, died at Clifton, aged 81.

Mr. A. Sharpe, British Consul for the territories under British influence to the north of the Zambezi, has left London for Zambia.

In India electrical wires are being used to prevent the intrusion of snakes into dwellings.

The 2 baggage mules used by the late Prince Henry of Battenberg on his tour from Cape Coast Castle to Kumasi have arrived.

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At a public meeting held this week at Ramsgate it was decided to make arrangements for the holding of a yacht race week during July.

The Surrey County Council have refused to accept a resolution in favour of taxing cycles, and declared the proposal to be practically impossible.

The Navy estimates will provide for increasing the corps of Royal Marines by 500 men. Three hundred will be appointed to the infantry branch and 200 to the artillery division.

Henry Wilson, 66, who has served over 20 years in prison, was committed for trial at Halifax, charged with stealing gold rings valued at £120 from the shop of a local jeweller.

An interesting and successful series of experiments with "the new photography" was given at the rooms of the Royal Photographic Society, Hanover-sq., this week by Mr. C. Swinton.

The late Prof. Williamson's collection of fossil plants has been acquired by the trustees of the British Museum.

Mr. J. King, B.A., of

